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# Saipan Tribune

CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER

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School counselors to get retroactive salary increase. **PAGE 3**

Man who tried to strangle his wife gets 14 months. **PAGE 5**

# PSS: No contingency plan yet for non-HQT in 2011

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

The Public School System has yet to come up with a contingency plan for July 2011, when the U.S. Department of Education will no longer allow non-highly qualified teachers inside classrooms.

Education Commissioner Dr. Rita A. Sablan admitted this to *Saipan Tribune* in an interview, saying that PSS still has high hopes that its remaining non-HQTs will complete and meet the requirements before the deadline.

Sablan

Teachers who have yet to be certified as highly qualified comprise about 34 percent of public school instructors.

PSS, Sablan said, is pulling its resources together to help these non-HQTs comply with the requirements through institutes that will be offered this summer.

"Our goal is to aid them—through summer institutes—so they can be successful in taking the Praxis tests," Sablan said.

There are three PSS requirements for a teacher to be deemed highly qualified: a degree, valid teaching certificates, and passing both Praxis 1 and 2.

Last school year, 130 non-HQTs were given a one-year

*See PSS on Page 4*

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**OPINION METER**

**This week's poll:**
On a scale of 1 to 5, with 5 being the highest, how would you rate the CNMI Labor Department's performance in terms of placing unemployed workers in jobs?

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**PANDEMIC ALERT STATUS PHASE 5**

As of May 11, 2009

**Phase 1:** Viruses circulating among animals have yet to cause infections in humans.

**Phase 2:** An animal influenza virus is causing infection in humans, and is considered a potential pandemic threat.

**Phase 3:** An animal or human-animal influenza virus has caused sporadic cases or small clusters of disease in people, but has not resulted in human-to-human transmission sufficient to sustain community-level outbreaks.

**Phase 4:** Verified human-to-human transmission of an animal or human-animal influenza virus able to cause "community-level outbreaks."

**Phase 5:** A strong signal that a pandemic is imminent and that the time to finalize the organization, communication, and implementation of planned mitigation measures is short.

**Phase 6:** The pandemic phase, is an indication that a global pandemic is underway.

For more information about the H1N1 flu, contact DPH at 236-8797, Monday to Friday, from 8am to 5pm, 234-8950 during after hours, e-mail cnmipheoc@gmail.com, or visit www.cdc.gov/h1n1flu/.

*Source: CNMI Department of Public Health, World Health Organization*

## UNDER OBAMA'S PROPOSED FY 2010 BUDGET

# From $5.172M, NMI Compact Impact share down to $1.93M

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

The CNMI will be getting only $1.93 million in Compact Impact funding for Fiscal Year 2010, a sharp drop from the FY 2009 funding of $5.172 million, under President Obama's 2010 budget proposal of $3.4 trillion to the U.S. Congress.

This represents a Compact Impact funding drop of 62 percent or a loss of $3.242 million for the CNMI.

At the same time, the proposed Office of Insular Affairs funding for the CNMI's capital improvement projects is only $10.995 million, a drop of $335,000 from the current level of $11.33 million.

The significant Compact Impact funding cut is due to a 41 percent drop in the number of Freely Associated States citizens who migrated to the CNMI, now at only 2,001 based on the U.S. Census Bureau's latest survey.

This is the lowest annual Compact Impact funding the CNMI has ever had in decades. In FY 2008, the funding level

*See COMPACT on Page 4*

## TOTAL VOTERS AS OF MAY 1:

# 13,454

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

Barely three months before the registration deadline, the Election Commission recorded as of May 1 this year a total of 13,454 voters—a slight increase over February's 13,104 registered voters.

Records obtained by *Saipan Tribune* yesterday showed that Election District 1 remains the

*See VOTERS on Page 4*

# Unsafe docks at Smiling Cove Marina

Santiago Saures, enforcement personnel at the Smiling Cove Marina, points to the wooden patches on the dilapidated plastic floating dock at the marina yesterday. The floating dock, built sometime in the early '90s, is now considered unsafe, and is expected to be replaced as early as August using a $2 million funding from the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service. HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
haidee_eugenio@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Smiling Cove Marina's docks, which are patched with plywood to cover dilapidated portions, are no longer safe to use and are in need of replacement, Smiling Cove Marina manager Roque Santos said yesterday.

He said about 50 percent of the floating docks are dilapidated or are badly cracked and could cause accidents.

Santiago Saures, enforcement staffer at the Smiling Cove Marina, showed *Saipan Tribune* the many wooden patches and dilapidated areas at the marina yesterday, while Larry Tenorio, supervisor of enforcement, showed the new transient dock made of composite lumber that will replace the plastic floating docks built some 20 years ago.

The new transient dock is sturdier than the current floating plastic docks, which are more suitable for freshwater.

Santos said they are now in the process of recruiting a proj-

*See DOCKS on Page 4*

## INSIDE

**Box Office Star**

"Star Trek" beamed itself up to the top of the box office, earning $76.5 million.

**LIFE & STYLE...Page 20**

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# Local

## 'H1N1 flu outbreak far from over'

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Although most of the H1N1 flu infections continue to cause only mild illnesses and that patients recover quickly and fully, the Centers for Disease and Control and Prevention is warning that the current outbreak is far from over.

As of yesterday morning, the CNMI Department of Public Health still placed the CNMI at pandemic alert level Phase 5, as declared by the World Health Organization and CDC.

The number of H1N1 flu cases continue to increase in the U.S. mainland, with 2,532 in 44 states and three confirmed deaths.

DPH assured the public that there is no confirmed case yet in the CNMI.

No type A flu cases have been reported by its six sentinel sites, which include all Commonwealth Health Center clinics, Marianas Medical Center, Medical Associates of the Pacific, Tinian Health Center, and Rota Health Center.

As of May 10, WHO reported 29 countries with 4,379 cases of H1N1, including the first persons positive with the virus in Japan and Australia.

Both countries have reported their first cases of H1N1 flu on May 9.

CDC report said an unidentified man in his 30s from Washington State is the third person in the U.S. to die from H1N1 flu. The man's death comes after two prior fatal U.S. cases of H1N1 flu: a 33-year old woman in Texas and a Mexican toddler who had been treated in a Texas hospital.

CDC said that all three individuals had underlying medical conditions.

According to Dr. Anne Schuchat, interim Deputy Director for Science & Public Health Programs at CDC, the jump in confirmed cases is partly due to the reduction in the backlog of testing for infections.

But the number of confirmed cases is probably an underestimation of the total number of actual cases as the virus continues to spread, Schuchat said.

CDC's acting director, Dr. Richard Besser, said that, while the H1N1 flu is similar to seasonal flu, there are some important differences.

He explained that unlike seasonal flu, a high percentage of confirmed H1N1 cases seem to exhibit vomiting and diarrhea.

CDC noted that because this is a new flu virus, most people will not have immunity to it and so illness may be more severe and widespread as a result.

There is no vaccine available for the H1N1 flu virus at this time.

However, the DPH has already received enough supply of antiviral medicines and other protective items for the CNMI.

In its daily health update, DPH says children under the age of 5 and over 65, those who are pregnant and people with chronic conditions are at high risk for serious seasonal flu-related complications.

## Basketball sensation faces theft case

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

CNMI National mainstay Jericho S. Cruz is facing criminal charges after he allegedly opened the locker of a customer at Hyatt Regency Saipan's Club Elan and stole $150.

The 18-year-old Cruz appeared with lawyer Bruce Berline before Superior Court Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja for arraignment.

Cruz pleaded not guilty.

Naraja ordered Cruz to appear in court for a status conference on June 17, 2009 at 1:30pm.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that police arrested Cruz last week, but he was not taken to court after he immediately posted bail.

Detective Joaquin I. Deleon Guerrero stated in his report that during an interview on April 28 at the Department of Public Safety's Criminal Investigation Bureau, Cruz admitted opening the locker and taking $60 from the pocket of a pair of pants inside.

Deleon Guerrero said Cruz, who then worked at Hyatt as a receptionist, claimed that it was a co-worker's idea because the co-worker needed the money to buy methamphetamine or "ice."

The detective said Cruz claimed that he and the co-worker split the money and that he used his share to buy gas for his car.

The defendant allegedly used a pair of scissors to open the locker's lock.

Deleon Guerrero said the co-worker was also interviewed by detectives but denied any knowledge of the theft.

Police began looking into the incident on April 22 after Hyatt's security officer reported a theft at Club Elan.

Deleon Guerrero said that, acording to the victim, Joseph Rocco Motto, he signed up with Club Elan to use the facility on April 21 at 8:30pm.

Motto changed clothes and locked them with his other belongings in one of the lockers in the men's room.

After using the sauna for a few minutes, Motto put on his clothes and proceeded to DJ's Corner to buy some bread. He then discovered that his money was missing.

Motto reported the incident to the hotel's front desk manager. On April 25, the hotel's security manager called DPS CIB and provided the names of Cruz and Watana Seemuang, a cleaner, as the ones working at the reception desk and men's locker room at the time.

A few days before the alleged theft happened, Cruz led the Hyatt basketball team to a lopsided victory over Aqua Resort Club in their championship duel during the Budweiser Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino Invitational Basketball League at the Tinian Municipal Gym.

Cruz was named the best player of the championship game and the Most Valuable Player. He was the lone player from Hyatt to make it to the Mythical Five.

Cruz is set to graduate from Marianas High School this June.

## Fitial approves $20K for Tinian's medical referral, dialysis patients

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial has signed into law a local bill that allots $20,000 to the medical referral program and subsistence allowance of dialysis patients on Tinian.

House Local Bill 16-8, which sourced the money from local license fees collected from pachinko slot machines and poker machines, is now Tinian Local Law 16-8.

The bill, passed by the Tinian delegation on first and final reading on April 17, was offered by Rep. Edwin Aldan in March after finding out that there are island residents who are regularly referred to Saipan for dialysis.

"The expenses resulting from these referrals are negatively impacting the medical referral system. As a result, these patients are being urged to relocate to Saipan to be able to receive their medical treatments," Aldan's bill stated.

From the approved $24,000, Fitial allocated $10,000 to the Medical Referral Office for transportation expenses of dialysis patients who are regularly referred from Tinian to Saipan; and $10,000 for the monthly subsistence allowance for dialysis, cancer, multiple sclerosis, post-cervical, and vascular accident patients from Tinian.

The governor also approved $2,000 for the Tinian High School JROTC academic team for its participation in the upcoming College Options Foundation's 2009 JROTC Leadership and Academic Challenge Bowl finals next month.

Another $2,000 was approved for the Mes Man'Amko celebration. Fitial had endorsed the month of May as Older Americans Month. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

# School counselors to get retroactive salary increase

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
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REPORTER

School counselors who have been waiting for quite some time to get a salary increase has reasons to rejoice, following the Board of Education's formal adoption of a new salary scheme for them.

To be given retroactively, the new wage schedule, called the Highly Qualified Counselors Requirement and Compensation Plan, would pay counselors according to the type of certification they have obtained within the Public School System. The certification shall be aligned with the compensation plan for public school teachers.

The HQC plan was introduced to the board in December 2006 and was approved in January last year. It was published in the *Commonwealth Register* in February this year and was adopted as new regulation by the Education Board in its last meeting.

Under the new plan, non-certified counselors will get an annual salary of $27,911 if they have a bachelor's degree and have taken either Praxis 1 or 2 before July 2006; those who have a master's degree or higher and have taken both Praxis tests would be paid $28,884.

Counselors hired beginning August 2006 or later, have a degree, and have passed Praxis 2 only will get $27,911, while those with similar qualifications but passed Praxis 2 and have proof of taking Praxis 1 will be paid $28,884.

Counselors who have obtained certificates, have degrees, and are Praxis compliant would receive $30,976 annual pay if they have up to two years experience and were employed by PSS prior to August 2006.

Counselors with a master's degree or higher, have obtained valid Basic 1 certificate and passed both Praxis tests would be paid $33,289 annually if they have up to two years work experience at PSS.

The Education Board also approved new rates for new counselors employed beginning August 2006, which are: $30,976 if they have a degree, passed both Praxis tests, and have up to four years working experience; $33,289 for those with bachelor degree, Praxis compliant and have up to five years experience.

The same amount will be provided annually to counselors who have a master's degree and passed both Praxis exams and have up to four years work experience at PSS.

PSS and the board agreed to pay $35,837 to school counselors with a master's degree and higher, passed rigorous tests and with more than five years on their job.

Those holding Basic II certificates, with bachelor's degree and have at least two years experience as counselors would receive $35,837 if they are Praxis compliant. Those with the same Basic II certificates but have a master's degree or higher and have passed both Praxis exams will be getting $38,646.

School counselors who have obtained the standard certificate with endorsement, with degrees, and are Praxis compliant will get annual salary ranging from $35,837 to $45,163, depending on their years of experience, from two years up to 10 years.

The maximum salary under the HQC plan will be given to counselors who have already obtained professional certificates with endorsement, have a master's degree or higher, and more than 10 years in service. They must also have passed Praxis tests to be eligible to get an annual pay of $47,000.

### 'No more merit, step increases'

After approving the plan, the board indicated that PSS will no longer implement annual step or within-grade increases for counselors due to budgetary concerns. Counselors, according to the new regulation, will stay at their salary level for the term of their contract unless the counselor submits proof showing full qualification at a different level.

However, PSS will not adjust the salary in the initial two-year HQC contract term.

The new plan is still subject to change based on the availability of funds.

### 'Fair pay scale for counselors'

Marianas High School principal Karen Borja told the board during its recent meeting that school counselors have been faithful in fulfilling their obligations, yet they have been receiving an "unfair" salary scale compared to classroom teachers.

The HQT Compensation Plan for teachers provides a maximum salary of $47,000, depending on qualifications and credentials.

Borja said the "equity issue" between counselors and teachers must be addressed.

In her school, Borja said two of her hardworking counselors who have been with the system for some seven years are still getting a meager salary of $27,000, even though they meet certification and degree requirements.

# CPA: No free power to airport residents, tenants

The Commonwealth Ports Authority chief has vehemently denied a rumor circulating in local blogs that the agency will be providing free power to its tenants and residents within the airport area.

CPA executive director Efrain F. Camacho was reacting to a statement of board vice chair Kiyu Villagomez, who had alerted CPA to a number of blogs that mentioned free utilities at the airport area.

Camacho said the Commonwealth Utilities Corp. is actually "double charging" both CPA and its tenants because whenever CPA turns on its generator, the power goes to its tenants' meters and registers as if the power being used is CUC power.

"We found out that when the generator is on… it also supplies power to the tenants' meter," he said, thus tenants are also being billed by CUC for the use of "power" from the emergency grid.

He said the utilities corporation seems to be making "double" charges to both CPA and its tenants by reading and billing both their meters.

CPA, he said, wants CUC to read only the agency's master meter so that billings to the tenants would stop.

Camacho recently met with CUC director Antonio Muña to discuss the possibility of a memorandum of agreement between the agencies. The MOU would allow CPA to bill and collect for all tenants connected to the CPA's emergency power grid.

Camacho wants the MOU to start on June 1, in time for the installation of a new line and a generator for the emergency grid. ***(Moneth Deposa)***

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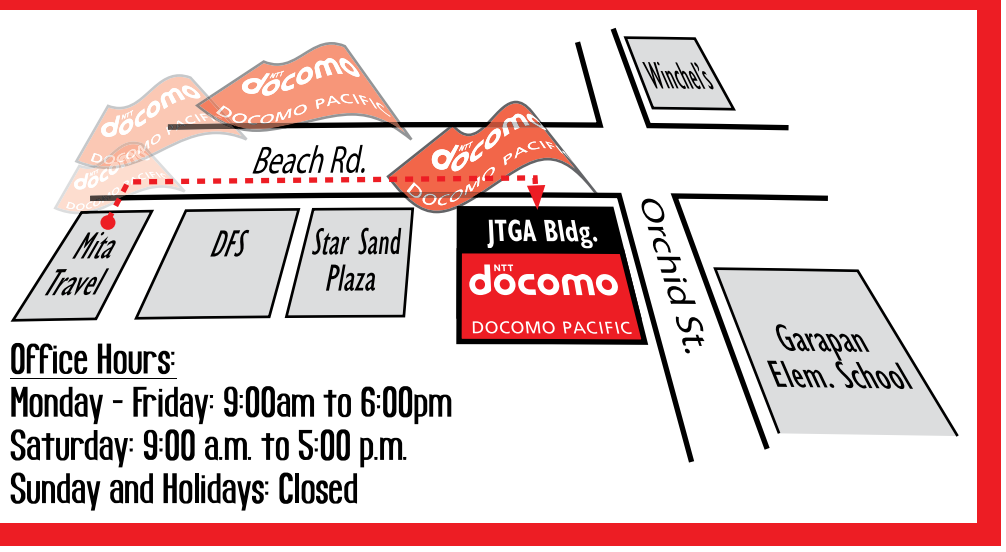


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# DPL found liable to pay $2.1M, not $1.8M, to heirs

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
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REPORTER

The Superior Court has found that the Department of Public Lands, as successor of the defunct Marianas Public Lands Authority, is liable to pay $2.1 million to the heirs of Rita Rogolifoi—not $1.8 million as the court had earlier determined.

In an amended order issued Thursday, Presiding Judge Robert C. Naraja ruled that the Rogolifoi heirs should be given a total of $2,122,476.70 as compensation for the government's taking of two parcels of two lands in As Mahetog in 1976 and 1992.

For the 1976 taking of land, Naraja determined that a prejudgment interest rate of 7.724 percent should be applied, for a final award amount of $112,241.98.

For the 1992 taking of land, the judge said a prejudgment interest of 6.991 percent should be applied, for a final award amount of $2,010,234.72.

In the same decision, Naraja ordered DPL to remit to the court a total of $567,543.47 in rental payments collected from respective lessees of the lands under the lease agreements with the former MPLA.

Naraja determined that as of March 31, 2009, MPLA collected $220,867.61 in rent under the original lease with the former Micronesian Telecommunication Corp. (now PTI).

He also found that as of March 31, 2009, MPLA collected $216,148.36 and $130,527.50 representing rent collected under the original lease with Saipan Ice Inc. and Commercial Trading of Saipan respectively.

Naraja had originally determined in January 2009 that DPL was liable to pay the Rogolifoi heirs $1.8 million.

In his amended order Thursday, Narja pointed out that at a status conference held on Feb. 11, 2009, the Rogolifois responded to the issue of mutual mistake.

The Rogolifois argued that the stipulated property values were negotiated between their counsel, Brien Sers Nicholas, and assistant attorney general Anthony Welch.

Furthermore, Naraja said, the Rogolofois argued that they made no mistake in stipulating to those values, and if there was a mistake, it was only on the part of Welch.

In the absence of evidence to the contrary, the judge said, he finds that even if Welch made a unilateral mistake when he stipulated to the property, "a unilateral mistake does not force this court to rescind the stipulations."

"Even in light of the significantly lower land values today, it is not a windfall to receive what a reasonably prudent person could have generated through moderately conservative investments if the Commonwealth would have made prompt payment for the land taking," he said.

Naraja ordered MPLA to negotiate with the Rogolifois as to a land exchange to resolve the remaining issue of the encroached area.

According to court records, MPLA's board of directors sued the Department of Land and Natural Resources and the heirs of Rita Rogolifoi in 2005.

The MPLA board accused the Division of Land Registration and Survey director of conducting arbitrary land surveys that benefited the heirs of Rogolifoi to public land.

But the heirs of Rogolifoi filed a counter-claim against MPLA. The heirs claimed that over 1,000 square meters of their 4.4 hectares were used by the government for the road.

# Private sector's support for LibDay fest flows in

Private companies have begun showing their support for the monthlong Liberation Day Festival, according to the Office of the Mayor of Saipan.

JC Tenorio Enterprises has just committed a flat screen TV and a woman's bicycle to be included in the raffle. Northwest Airlines has also signified its intention to sponsor the grand prize.

The Legislature had appropriated $35,000 for the celebration, while the rest of the expenses would be raised from solicitation and sponsorships.

Food vendors will pay a concession fee of $800, while those selling liquor will pay $1,200.

The United Filipino Organization has volunteered to help build the stage and some of the booths at the event's venue at Garapan Fishing Base.

Some 2,000 booklets will be initially prepared for the Liberation Day Queen competition, with each booklet to cost $5 each. The organizing committee said each candidate will keep 20 percent of the total funds they will raise while 80 percent will go to the municipality.

For the first time in four years, the Liberation Queen contest will be open to all nationalities. However, only one slot will be given to all ethnicities, be it Korean, Filipino, Chinese, Russian, American, Japanese, Chamorro, Carolinian and others.

Because of financial difficulties, the fireworks display would not be as big as in previous year's.

This year's Liberation Day Festival will run from June 5 to July 5. ***(Nazario Rodriguez Jr.)***

## VOTERS

*From Page 1*

biggest voting bloc, with 3,630 registered voters.

This district covers San Vicente, which showed a light increase from 1,965 to 2,021; Koblerville, which now has 907 on its list, compared to the February figure of 881; and San Antonio, which went up to 702 from the previous month's total of 688.

Election District 3 has the second highest number of registered voters, totaling to 2,799 as of May 1, from just 2,744 in February. The district includes Garapan, which recorded 2,076 voters, a very slight increase from 2,030; and Oleai, which now has 723, from 712.

District 2, which covers Chalan Kanoa and Susupe areas, now has a total number of 1,023 voters, up from February's record of 998.

The four villages belonging to Election District 4 posted 1,477 total registered voters—Tanapag, 556; San Roque, 483; Capital Hill, 364; and Northern Islands, 74.

Kagman, which is Election District 5, has a total number of 1,935 voters, up from the previous record of 1,854 two months ago.

On Tinian, the list showed an additional 42 voters, now at 1,192 compared to only 1,150 two months ago.

Rota also recorded a minimal increase of voters, from 1,298 to 1,380 as of May 1.

The Election Commission earlier disclosed that there were 3,420 voters who failed to participate in the 2007 poll and were stricken from the list of registered voters.

Once they register, this would boost the commission's chances of meeting its target of 15,000 voters for the November 2009 election.

### '288 new voters as of May'

Election Commission acting executive director Jermae R. Cabrera said yesterday that, of the 13,454 registered voters, 288 are new registrants.

She said the number is expected to jump toward the end of the registration period, Sept. 18.

Commission statistics show that in 2005 general election, over 15,000 voters cast their votes.

"We're still in the very early stage of registration, and we're expecting that by the end or toward the end of the registration period…the number would significantly increase. If we already have 13,454 at this time, we may exceed the 15,000 in 2005 gubernatorial election," she told *Saipan Tribune.*

Cabrera estimates that two to 10 "walk-in" registrants are accommodated at their Capital Hill office on a daily basis.

Within the month, the commission will open a registration outlet every Saturday at Price Costco to encourage more individuals to register.

The Saturday event usually generates 15 percent of total voters in past elections.

## DOCKS

*From Page 1*

ect manager to oversee the rehabilitation of the Smiling Cove Marina using a $2 million funding from the U.S. Department of the Interior's Fish and Wildlife Service.

"We expect construction to begin in August. It will take about a year to complete the project once construction commences," Santos said in an interview at the marina.

The new materials to be used will last for at least 50 years and will be more suitable for saltwater.

Santos also said the construction will be done in segments, instead of removing all the docks or berths all at once. For example, the first part may only include Docks B and C, and the vessels docked at the slips will be asked to temporarily relocate while the replacement is ongoing, and so on.

Smiling Cove Marina has 74 slips or areas where the boats are berthed or parked. All the slips are being used, with only two on the wait list.

Every month, vessel owners pay a berthing fee depending on the size of their vessel. A vessel 29 feet or less in length pays $3.50 a foot, while a vessel 44 feet or greater pays $8 a foot. The median vessel size is 29 ft. to 44 ft. which pays $5.50 a foot.

"Once this project is done, we will have a better and safer marina for people to enjoy. We will also ask people to care for it and assist the marina staff in protecting the docks," Santos added.

## COMPACT

*From Page 1*

was at $5.118 million.

Press secretary Charles P. Reyes Jr. said yesterday the Fitial administration is disappointed with the reduced amount of Compact Impact funding.

"The CNMI needs funding. …This presents further financial challenges to our government. The federal government raises minimum wage rates and imposes federalization, weakening our economy and causing an exodus of migrants and a reduction in Compact Impact funds," Reyes told *Saipan Tribune*.

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary for the U.S. Interior's Office of Insular Affairs Nikolao Pula earlier said the significant drop is expected because of a steep drop in the CNMI's FAS population. He said the economic slowdown forced FAS citizens to migrate to Guam or Hawaii where job opportunities abound.

Guam, which saw an 86 percent growth in FAS citizen population, from only about 10,000 in 2003 to 18,305 in 2008, will be receiving an additional $2.585 million in Compact Impact funding.

In FY 2010, Guam's Compact Impact funding is proposed at $16.827 million, from only $14.242 million in FY 2009.

Survey figures suggest this could have been triggered by the intermigration of FAS citizens from the CNMI, which has seen an economic slowdown due to the demise of the garment industry and weak tourism.

Under a Compact between the United States and FAS, citizens of FAS are free to travel, work and study in the U.S. and its territories without U.S. visas.

The FAS includes Palau, the Marshall Islands and the Federated States of Micronesia (Yap, Chuuk, Pohnpei and Kosrae).

Guam, Hawaii, American Samoa and the CNMI share $30 million in Compact Impact funding that the Interior Department releases every year. The federal funding goes mainly to health, social service, public safety and education agencies for accommodating or providing services to FAS citizens.

Guam gets the lion's share of the funding in FY 2010 at $16.827 million, followed by Hawaii with $11.229 million, and the CNMI at $1.930 million. American Samoa will be getting $14,000 in Compact Impact funding, a drop of $1,000 from the $14,000 budget in FY 2009.

The annual appropriation is reviewed every five years for possible realignment of allocations among recipient jurisdictions.

Rep. Ray N. Yumul, chair of the House Ways and Means Committee, and Sen. Maria "Frica" Pangelinan, chair of the Senate Fiscal Affairs Committee, jointly asked the Fitial administration on Thursday to clarify the projected Compact Impact funding in the FY 2010 budget.

Gov. Benigno R. Fitial said the administration expected Compact Impact funding to be "significantly reduced" and this will lower budget projections for FY 2010. He said Finance will work with the Legislature to reflect those changes in the budget.

The April 1 budget submission by the Department of Finance shows $5,171,916 in Compact Impact funding projection.

## PSS

*From Page 1*

contract only, on the condition that they show good faith in complying with the requirements.

When asked if these same non-HQTs would be extended for another year at PSS, the commissioner said no decision has been made yet, citing the important "role" played by school principals in making the decision.

"We invested so much in our teachers. Whatever decision we will make for non-HQTs would be the recommendations of their school principals," she said.

In reviewing the renewal contracts of non-HQTs, Sablan said she was impressed with the "action plan" mapped out by each teacher to meet the requirements.

"They are very serious in fulfilling this obligation before the expiration of their contract," she said.

During the Education Board's last meeting, board member Tanya King had asked about a "contingency plan" for non-HQTs comes 2011.

"Are we going to eliminate them? What's next after the deadline for those who are not able to pass [Praxis]?" she asked the commissioner, adding that it is important to lay down "Plan A and B" before the end of 2011.

Sablan said the termination or elimination of teachers is something PSS does not want to see but this will ultimately be up to the board.

She conceded, though, that "policy must be enforced by PSS."

### 'Growth model'

Education Board vice chair Herman T. Guerrero told fellow board members that "changes" or "special consideration" for non-HQTs may carries a stigma for PSS.

"We must be very careful…because it may carry a stigma for those who already passed," he said, adding that if the same number of teachers are not able to comply with the standards in 2011, perhaps "education is not their calling."

Guerrero pointed out that if CNMI-PSS strictly follows the No Child Left Behind Act as intended, some of the teachers would be kicked out of the system.

"No ifs, no buts," he said.

At present, 67 percent of PSS teachers are already deemed highly qualified.

# Man who tried to strangle his wife gets 14 months

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The Superior Court slapped yesterday a 14-month prison sentence on a man who strangled his wife in a jungle area near a police station on Tinian.

Associate Judge David A. Wiseman sentenced Peter A. Villagomez to five years in prison, all suspended except for 14 months.

Following a plea agreement, the 41-year-old Villagomez was given credit for the time he has already served in jail. This means Villagomez is expected to be released from prison by Dec. 20, 2009.

After completing his prison term, the defendant will be placed on probation and required to perform 200 hours of community service.

During the probationary period, Villagomez will be prohibited from drinking any alcoholic beverages.

The Attorney General's Office charged Villagomez with attempted second-degree murder and attempted aggravated assault and battery.

The defendant and government lawyer Douglas Hartig signed a plea agreement.

Villagomez pleaded guilty to aggravated assault and battery. The remaining charge was dismissed.

The case arose from an incident in the early morning of Oct. 18, 2008, when the defendant choked his wife and threatened to kill her.

The assault resulted in his wife being brought to the hospital, but her injuries were not life-threatening.

Police said two witnesses, including an off-duty firefighter, saw Villagomez choking his wife on the side of the road and were able to stop him.

Witnesses said they thought someone has been run over by a vehicle so he and his companion got down from the car and saw two persons lying on the ground.

The victim said she was walking to her sister's house when her husband followed her, beat her up, and dragged her to a jungle area.

The victim said she managed to run to the shoulder of the road, but Villagomez caught her and choked her again.

# CPA approves abalone farming test project at Tinian's seaport

By MONETH G. DEPOSA
moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Tinian has been granted a temporary permit to use a portion of the island's seaport for its experimental abalone project.

Commonwealth Ports Authority executive director Efrain F. Camacho recently disclosed this to the board, adding that the area, identified by Tinian Mayor Jose P. San Nicolas, will not hamper the operation of the island's port.

"The mayor of Tinian was granted temporary permit to use a small part of the seaport area for the experimental project raising abalone. This area is away from all activities and will not be a problem to the community or any of CPA's operation," Camacho said in his report to CPA board.

San Nicolas, along with some of the island's agricultural officials and representatives, traveled to the Philippines for related workshops and on-site visit to an abalone farm.

San Nicolas declined to comment yesterday on the status and preparation for the abalone project.

Camacho said the ports authority management is planning to ask for funds from the Department of Homeland Security for fencing, lights, and other items to enhance security at the port.

In an early interview, San Nicolas told *Saipan Tribune* that raising abalone would help Tinian revive its economy due to declining tourism numbers.

Since 1998, only Tinian Dynasty Hotel & Casino is the sole business entity that contributes to the municipality's fund. It remits a portion to the gaming commission to pay for the salary of municipal employees.

Three new casino operators are expected to boost the island's casino industry and the anticipated economic impact from the Guam military buildup. Two-thirds of Tinian's landmass is expected to be used as military training sites.

Also on Tinian, CPA reported that the Tinian delegation has approved the use of a certain amount of its funds to complete the new terminal building and to support badly needed improvements to the existing terminal.

Camacho said the Tinian airport is also scheduled to get a new tractor mower and pavement striping machine from the Federal Aviation Agency funds. He added that a permanent rotating beacon is also being worked on.

# Girl, 6, nearly drowns at Fishing Base

A 6-year-old girl nearly drowned at the Fishing Base in Garapan Sunday afternoon.

DPS Boating Safety officers learned that the girl will be released from the Commonwealth Health Center upon completion of her antibiotic regimen, said Department of Public Safety spokesperson Eric David yesterday.

David said that on Sunday at 3:24pm, a woman called DPS 911 and reported a possible drowning incident at the Fishing Base beach site area.

Officers responded to the scene and learned from bystanders that the victim had already been brought to CHC.

At CHC, an officer saw that the girl was conscious and was responding to nurses.

A doctor told the officer that the victim will be admitted to the Intensive Care Unit for observation.

The report did not mention the circumstances of how the girl nearly drowned at the beach and who saved her.

Police is conducting a follow-up investigation. ***(Ferdie de la Torre)***

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# Tudela and Merfalen lead NMC awardees

BY MONETH G. DEPOSA
Moneth_deposa@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

A sophomore Business student and an instructor for three years topped this year's outstanding awardees of the Northern Marianas College, receiving the prestigious 2009 Student and Faculty of the Year awards.

During the 28th Charter Day celebration on Friday, Jose C. Tudela was named recipient of the NMC Student of the Year honor and was awarded a plaque, a $300 cash prize, and a designated parking space for a year in the college campus.

Named Faculty of the Year was Bobbie Merfalen, who also received a plaque of appreciation from the Board of Regents and management as well as $300 cash gift and her own designated parking spot for the year.

Tudela

Merfalen

Pangelinan

Sablan

Eighteen-year-old Tudela admitted being surprised when his name was called.

"I didn't know about the award and I was not even aware that I was nominated. I was really surprised…but I am thankful for this recognition!" Tudela told *Saipan Tribune,* hopeful that he will inspire his campus peers.

Tudela is taking a double major at the college—General Business and Business Management. A graduate of Saipan Southern High School, he was very involved in numerous student activities, including serving as a member of the Associated Students of the NMC.

To qualify for the student award, a candidate must be a full-time student and has maintained a 2.5 grade point average.

Tudela said he was just happy to maintain both his academic and extra-curricular focus while in college.

The committee that selected Tudela cited his ability to earn the respect of students and faculty for his knowledge, his loyalty, and his ability to make people laugh.

Merfalen, who has been with NMC for about three years, was adjudged the best faculty member after she played a pivotal role in the college's accreditation efforts by leading some program review activities.

She is currently teaching in the college's School of Education and had exceeded the criteria for the Faculty of the Year award.

NMC said Merfalen never hesitates to share her knowledge, is constantly willing to assist in other areas where the college needs help with, and conducted accreditation workshops that helped other employees understand what is sometimes a daunting process.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that many School of Education students have experienced Merfalen's willingness to go beyond the call of duty in meeting their academic needs.

Meantime, the Supervisor of the Year honor was awarded to Leo Pangelinan who was currently on official off-island business in Honolulu.

Pangelinan is the college counseling director for two years. He topped the candidates for the category after demonstrating his ability to accomplish monumental tasks by exercising exemplary leadership skills.

*Saipan Tribune* learned that Pangelinan was able to successfully lead the planning for the Start Smart Seminar, an event that involved all high school seniors on Saipan. He is also an active community volunteer.

NMC management described Pangelinan as innovative, proactive, and takes risks where necessary.

The 2009 Staff of the Year honor went to Gregorio Sablan, who has been with NMC since February 1993. Sablan works for the Library Programs and Services.

The award stated that Sablan has demonstrated an outstanding ability to promote NMC with his talent, is an active participant in the college's fundraisers, and had demonstrated an outstanding working relationship with fellow workers, faculty, and students.

Sablan handles all kinds of library work, from processing purchase orders, cataloging books, magazines and other audio-visual materials, to doing other clerical works.

Pangelinan and Sablan each received plaques of appreciation, $300 cash prizes, and the privilege to own a parking slot throughout the year.

Cash prices to the awardees were gifts from the NMC Foundation.

# Pinoy groups join Labor-OWWA celebration

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
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REPORTER

Saipan-based Filipino organizations were represented at the joint celebration of Philippine Labor Day and the 27th anniversary of the Overseas Workers Welfare Administration last Saturday at the Canton Restaurant in Garapan.

Over a hundred guests and officials from the Philippine Consulate General led by Consul General Wilfredo Dl. Maximo, Labor Representative Joan Lourdes D. Lavilla and Welfare Officer Reynaldo Tayag and heads of various organizations were in attendance.

Leading the 19 Filipino groups were the United Filipino Organization, Bayani Association, Marinas Institute of Filipino Certified Public Accountants and Marianas Association of Filipino Engineers and Architects.

Other groups represented at the event were the Marianas Filipino Women's Association, Visayas Mindanao Association, Samahang Ilocano at Pangasinense, National Movement for Free Election, MDX Radio Group, CNMI Power Corporation Inc. and Samahang Mangagawang Filipino.

The others were Sirkulo Boholano Delas Islas Marianas, UP Alumni Association – CNMI Chapter, Multi-Sectoral Overseas Filipino Workers Movement, Pilipino Contract Overseas Workers Association, FilCom & Simbang Gabi, Saipan Building and Fixing Computer Users Group, Bicol Association, and CHC Volunteer Nurses for Free Health Screening.

Maximo read the Labor Day message of Philippine President Gloria Macapagal-Arroyo.

Arroyo said the culture of excellence that overseas Filipino workers have exhibited, whether they are working at home or in more than 190 host destinations worldwide, is the best assurance "that we will be able to weather this [economic] crisis."

Labor Secretary Marianito D. Roque also extended his message to all overseas Filipino workers, saying they continue to boost the economy.

Roque assured that job generation is a major strategy of the government to alleviate massive poverty.

He said with the current global crisis, OFWs are lucky to provide hope for their families back home.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

Members of the Bayani Association entertain guests during the joint Philippine Labor Day and 27th Anniversary of Overseas Workers Welfare Administration last Saturday at the Canton Restaurant in Garapan.

# New Zoning administrator to arrive this week

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The newly selected administrator for the Saipan Zoning Office, Victor Barrett, is scheduled to arrive this week from the U.S. mainland to take over the reins of the vacant position.

Barrett, who is from Arizona, was selected from a list of 20 applicants during a meeting on May 7 by members of the Zoning Board.

Board chair Henry S. Hofschneider said he talked to Barrett yesterday morning via telephone and the latter wanted to come to Saipan and met with board members.

Hofschneider explained that since zoning involves other government agencies such as the Historic Preservation Office, Coastal Resource Management, and Division of Environmental Quality, Barrett wants to also meet the officials of these agencies.

"This office needs a strong coordination with the HPO, CRM and other agencies," Hofschneider said.

The position was left vacant after former Zoning administrator Steve Tilley resigned due to family matters.

Of the 20 applications they received, Hofschneider said all except for one were from the U.S. mainland.

He said Barrett has over 30 years of experience in planning, architecture and design.

"His strengths include new urban master planning, creative planning solutions, project permitting and approval, client and vendor relations, authentic architectural design, public relation, etc.," Hofschneider said.

Barrett has a background in sustainable design, and has extensive experience in development of sensitive coastal, flood plain and remote sites.

He said Barrett has helped towns and cities draft proposed zoning and land use control ordinances, regulations and laws.

He has worked in Belize, Mexico. His projects there included architectural designs, planning, and working with local authorities on land use development.

# MHS Class of '70 prepares for 40th reunion

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Members of Marianas High School's Class of 1970 is gearing up for its 40th class reunion next year, 2010.

The first graduates of Marianas High School, the Class of 1970, is gearing up for its 40th class reunion next year, 2010. As a kicker, the group will be having a potluck picnic for all classmates, on Sunday, May 24, at the Carolinian Utt from 9:30am until 4:30pm.

"We welcome all classmates and families to join us as we embark toward the planning of another milestone in our lifetime," the class said in a statement.

A meeting for the last-minute preparation of the picnic will be held on May 14, Thursday, at the Marianas High School conference room, Building H. at 6pm. All classmates are encouraged to attend this very important gathering.

Some of the plans for the 40th year reunion include possible participation in the Marianas High School graduation ceremony, a Eucharistic celebration honoring those who have passed away, a banquet, and also an off-island trip to Palau or other destinations.

The class recently held its election of officers and John "Pakito" Camacho was elected chairman. The other officers are John Maglona Sablan, vice chairman; Tony "Potu" Cabrera, secretary; Laura "Laling" Sablan, treasurer; and Maggie "Kan" Camacho, public information officer.

For more information, contact any of the following: Pakito, 234-3182/3/4; Potu, 483-6367 or ablascabrera@hotmail.com; or Maggie Camacho, 322-7367/287-6222 or maggieccamacho@gmail.com.

"Please join us as we reminisce on our younger years at Hopwood Junior High School and Marianas High School," the class statement said. ***(PR)***

# Lawmaker urges CRM to stop Marpi site clearing

By HAIDEE V. EUGENIO
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REPORTER

Rep. Tina Sablan yesterday asked Coastal Resources Management director Dr. John Joyner to issue an immediate stop work order on the ongoing Marpi clearing until formal public hearings have been conducted and until a major siting permit has been duly issued.

Sablan said the Marpi project, which involves the clearing of 62 hectares of land of unexploded World War II ordnance, "is proceeding in plain violation of CRM regulations" because of a lack of a major siting permit.

CRM, in a Feb. 1 CRM one start/DEQ earthmoving and erosion control application review form submitted by the Department of Public Lands, explicitly stated that the Marpi project constituted a major siting.

Sablan said this determination of a major siting for the Marpi project should have triggered an extensive public review process, including public hearings, as required for all major siting permit applications, before any land clearing should have commenced.

"Unfortunately, and for reasons I do not yet understand, massive land clearing began at the Marpi project site nevertheless without a major siting permit and without a single formal public hearing, and continues to this day," Sablan told Joyner.

Joyner and other regulatory agency officials could not be immediately reached for comment as the letter was sent late in the afternoon.

Much public outcry and confusion have resulted, and many questions remain about the apparent breakdown in the local permitting process; the method of land clearing being used and its impact on an area of immense historic, cultural and biological value; the wisdom of the proposal to ultimately establish a homestead development in that area of Marpi; and the possible conflicts between an outdated public land use plan that has proven difficult to find, and the recently adopted Saipan Zoning Law of 2008, said Sablan.

DPL only obtained an earthmoving permit from the Division of Environmental Quality for the Marpi project which DPL has said is only to clean it up of war ordnance and not for homestead development at this time.

In her two-page letter, Sablan cited CRM's own regulations defining "major siting" as "any proposed project which has the potential to directly and significantly impact coastal resources."

The phrase includes but is not limited to "proposed projects with potential for significant adverse effects on groundwater recharge areas, cultural areas, historic or archaeological sites and properties, designated conservation and pristine areas, areas of scientific interest, recreational areas, and endangered or threatened species habitat.

Citing CRM regulations published in the Commonwealth Register in May 2004, Sablan said "major siting" also includes major urban or government developments, as well as any project with the potential for affecting coastal resources which requires a federal license, permit, or other authorization from any regulatory agency of the U.S. government, and proposed projects that modify the areas that are particularly susceptible to erosion and sediment loss.

"The Marpi Village Homestead Project meets all of the criteria described above from defining a major siting," Sablan told Joyner.

The lawmaker also mentioned her telephone conversation on May 8 with Joyner in which Joyner agreed to call a meeting of the CRM Board to take up the matter of the Marpi project.

In a public meeting on the Marpi project last week, Pankaj Arora of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency said there's no benefit in stopping the unexploded ordnance removal now, and that funding for the assessment and cleanup had already been granted. EPA granted $550,000 in funding for the assessment and clearing of Marpi of war ordnance.

The Marpi area being cleared of unexploded war ordnance is large enough to develop approximately 500 homesteads. The U.S. military used the area immediately after the capture of Saipan during World War II. It was used to store thousands of tons of ordnance for the impending invasion of the Japanese mainland.

# Pelisamen's hotel stay is OK'd due to health issues

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The U.S. District Court has allowed controversial former estate administrator Luis Kaipat Pelisamen to stay at a local hotel after the defendant told the court that he has chronic lung disease, heart disease, and diabetes.

U.S. District Court for the NMI chief judge Alex R. Munson amended Pelisamen's bail conditions on Friday, allowing Pelisamen to stay overnight two nights a week at the Green Hills Hotel in Gualo Rai.

In his request to amend the conditions of his temporary release, the former Kaipat estate administrator stated that his chronic lung disease sometimes causes him to have asthma, especially when the weather is hot, making it difficult for him to breathe.

Pelisamen said his house is not air-conditioned as he has no electric power.

Pelisamen's daughter has offered to pay for the rent of an air-conditioned room in the evening at the Green Hills Hotel, whenever he has an asthma attack due to the heat at his home.

The bail conditions require Pelisamen to remain at his house from 6pm to 6am.

Pelisamen is facing charges of wire fraud and money laundering. Last week, a hung jury prompted Munson to declare a mistrial in the case.

Pelisamen used to be the administrator of the Kaipat estate. Fugitive lawyer Joseph A. Arriola then served as Pelisamen's counsel in that probate.

Then Superior Court Associate Judge Lizama kicked out both Pelisamen and Arriola from the estate after finding that some money in the estate were missing.

According to the indictment, Arriola and Pelisamen transferred funds belonging to the Kaipat estate from the Bank of Guam to the Bank of Hawaii on Nov. 28, 2005, thereby causing communications by wire between Saipan and Hawaii.

Pelisamen and Arriola were accused of issuing 66 checks amounting to $219,000 to themselves.

# Female teen arrested for alleged meth trafficking

Police arrested last week a teenager who was allegedly selling methamphetamine or "ice" on Saipan.

Megan P. Masga, 19, was arrested Thursday morning for illegal possession of controlled substance and trafficking.

Masga was taken to the Superior Court yesterday for a bail hearing. Associate Judge Kenneth Govendo imposed a $3,000 cash plus $27,000 unsecured bond for her temporary liberty.

The court's original bail was $30,000 cash. Preliminary hearing was set for May 19.

In his report, Detective Steven C. Castro said that members of the Department of Public Safety's Narcotics Unit, with the assistance of the DPS Criminal Investigation Bureau, conducted a monitored purchase of "ice" from Masga on April 5.

Using a "cooperating defendant," the officers managed to purchase $150 worth of "ice" from Masga in San Antonio, Castro said.

On April 26, members of the DPS Local Drug Task Force conducted another buy operation against Masga, during which Masga allegedly handed "ice" to a "cooperating source." ***(Ferdie dela Torre)***

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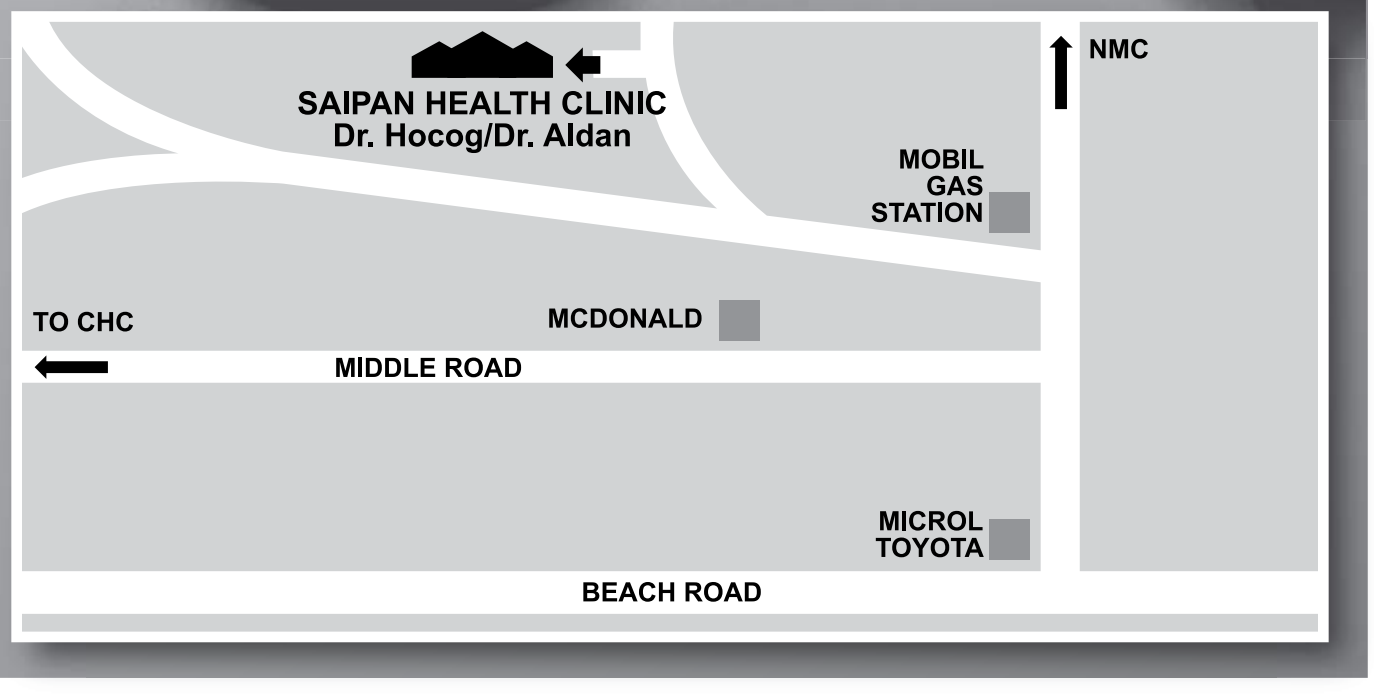

# CO adds new Guam-Manila flight

**HAGÅTÑA, Guam**—Continental Micronesia has added a new flight service between Manila in the Philippines and Guam for the peak summer travel.

Beginning June 6 until July 11, the airline has added Saturday morning flight service to Manila from Guam. Flight 893 departs Guam at 7:10am and arrives into Manila at 8:50am. Flight 894 departs Manila at 10am and arrives into Guam at 3:40pm.

"The additional flight frequency is in response to customer demand and will enhance the packages offered through our Continental Holidays product," said David Kendell, Sales and Marketing director.

Continental also operates daily evening service to Manila with a 155-seat Boeing 737-800 aircraft.

"The benefit of the extra flight service on Saturday morning is also to accommodate our customers who flow through to Southeast Asia destinations for their summer travel and for those who look to Manila as a weekend getaway," Kendell said.

Celebrating more than 40 years of service in Guam and Micronesia, Continental Micronesia is headquartered in Guam and operates a Pacific hub from the A.B. Won Pat International Airport.

Continental Micronesia and its code share partner Cape Air operate 86 weekly commuter service flights between Guam and the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Continental Airlines is the world's fifth largest airline. For more company information, go to continental.com. ***(Continental)***

## COMMUNITY BRIEFS

### Marianas High School Schedule

May 4-15: Advanced Placement Exams

May 13: 4th Quarter Mid-Progress Report distribution (report will be distributed to students)

May 18-22: PSS Standards Based Assessment tests

May 25: No classes (Memorial Day)

June 11: Graduation ceremony

June 15: End of 4th Quarter

For questions or concerns contact 237-3206.

### MHS Class of '88 meeting

This is to remind the Marianas High School Class of 1988 that there will be a meeting on Thursday, May 14, 2009, at the residence of Melvin P. and Eleanor A. Cepeda in As Lito, at 6:30pm. For more information, call Kat S. Lizama at 287-3858 or Eleanor A. Cepeda at 285-5974. ***(PR)***


**PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY**
**CNMI GOVERNMENT**
**REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS**
**RFP09-DPH-081**

**SUBMISSION: JUNE 01, 2009 TIME: 2:00 P.M.**

**"OUTSIDE GROUND MAINTENANCE SERVICES FOR THE COMMONWEALTH HEALTH CENTER"**

COPIES OF THE SCOPE OF WORK MAY BE OBTAINED AT THE OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR OF PROCUREMENT AND SUPPLY IN LOWERBASE DURING REGULAR WORKING HOURS.

ALL QUESTIONS MUST BE SUBMITTED IN WRITING TO **MR. JOHN M. TAGABUEL, ENVIRONMENTAL HEALTH OFFICER BY FAX TO (670) 664-4871 OR EMAIL TO divbeh1@pticom.com.** NO LATER THAN **MAY 21, 2009, CLOSE OF BUSINESS.**

**PREFERENCE IS AVAILABLE TO US CITIZENS OR PERMANENT RESIDENTS AS PER PUBLIC LAW 15-95 AND AS FURTHER AMENDED BY PUBLIC LAW 15-118 AND MUST BE SUBMITTED WITH THE PROPOSAL IF PREFERENCED IS CLAIMED.**

/s/ JOSEPH K.P. VILLAGOMEZ
SECRETARY OF HEALTH

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S



**Procurement And Supply**
**CNMI Government**

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**ITB NO.: ITB09-DPS-093**
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**Preference is available to US Citizens or Permanent Residents as per Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118 and must be submitted with the bid if preference is claimed.**

/s/ SANTIAGO F. TUDELA
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC SAFETY

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
DIRECTOR, P&S


Jose C. Charfauros
Ana Marie G. Charfauros
P.O. Box 594
Rota, MP 96951

Telephone: 532-3333

Pro Se

**IN THE SUPERIOR COURT OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS**

| | |
|---|---|
| IN THE MATTER OF THE ADOPTION OF Annalyn Charfauros Mendiola<br><br>a minor child,<br><br>BY: Jose C. and Ana Marie G. Charfauros<br><br>Petitioners, | FCD-AD<br>CIVIL ACTION NO. 09-0273R<br><br>**NOTICE OF HEARING** |

Notice is hereby given that the above-entitled matter is set for a hearing on May 22, 2009, at 10:30 a.m. in Rota Courtroom, before the Associate Judge Perry B. Inos.

Dated this 11th day of May, 2009.

Bernadita A. Sablan
Clerk of Court

/s/ By: Deputy Clerk of Court


**COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY**
P.O. Box 502149, Saipan MP 96950
Tel: (670) 234-6245/6293/7145/7146 • Fax: (670) 234-7144 or 235-7147
Email: administration@cda.gov.mp • Website: www.cda.gov.mp

**PUBLIC NOTICE**
May 11, 2009

**PURSUANT TO PUBLIC LAW 8-41, THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE COMMONWEALTH DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY THRU ITS CHAIRMAN, HEREBY INFORMS THE GENERAL PUBLIC THAT THE CDA BOARD WILL HOLD ITS REGULAR MEETING ON WEDNESDAY, MAY 13, 2009 AT 10:00 A.M. THE MEETING WILL BE HELD AT THE CDA CONFERENCE ROOM, SECOND FLOOR, WAKIN'S BUILDING, CHALAN PALE ARNOLD ROAD, SAIPAN. THE AGENDA FOR THIS MEETING IS AS FOLLOWS:**

**AGENDA**

I. PRELIMINARY MATTERS
  1. Roll Call
  2. Adoption of Agenda
  3. Adoption of Minutes
    a. CDA Minutes April 16, 2009
    b. DCD Minutes April 16, 2009
II. PUBLIC COMMENTS
III. REPORTS
  1. Financial Report-CDA
  2. Legal Counsel's Report
IV. DIVISIONS/COMMITTEES
  1. Development Corporation Division (DCD)
  2. DBD/Public Finance Committee
  3. Administrative Matters/Personnel & Budget
  4. QC Program/Economic Development Activities
    a. PTI Services, Inc. – QC Application
V. OLD BUSINESS
VI. NEW BUSINESS
  1. Small Business Development Center (SBDC)
VII. OTHER MATTERS
VIII. ADJOURNMENT

**All interested persons are welcome to attend and to submit written or oral testimony on the above agenda items. (Note: Pursuant to Public Law 8-41, Section 13(a)(7) and Section 13(c), the Board may vote to meet in executive session)**

/s/ PEDRO I. ITIBUS
Chairman, CDA Board of Directors



**COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY**
Port of Saipan
CAPT. GEORGE F. FLEMING MEMORIAL BUILDING
Phone: (670) 664-3550 Fax: (670) 322-4710
E-Mail Address: cpa.portadmin@pticom.com • Website: www.cpa.gov.mp

**INVITATION TO BID**
Bid No. CPA SS-09-V

**"Sale of Government Property"**

The Commonwealth Ports Authority is inviting interested individuals or firms to bid on the following vehicle:

**2002 Ford Explorer 5WGN 6 Cylinder Engine**

Interested individuals or firms may pick-up the general information and forms at the Commonwealth Ports Authority, Port of Saipan building at the Seaport. Bidders are also advised to inspect the property. All interested bidders should submit bid documents no later than May 15, 2009, 4:00 p.m., to:

Efrain F. Camacho, P.E.
Executive Director
Commonwealth Ports Authority
Saipan International Airport
2nd Floor Arrival Building

Efrain F. Camacho, P.E.
Executive Director


## Flashback

A LOOK BACK AT PAST YEARS' HEADLINES

### May 12, 1999

#### Telesource eyes Dynasty's vessels

In what appears to be a move to strengthen its business interest in the Northern Marianas, Telesource CNMI Inc. is planning to acquire two ferry boats from Tinian Shipping Company Inc. amid deepening financial troubles gripping the shipping firm. The two ferry boats is owned by Tinian Shipping, a subsidiary of Hong Kong Entertainment (Overseas) Investment Ltd. which operates the cash-strapped Tinian Dynasty Hotel and Casino. The shipping company bought the ferry boats in 1997 for $10.8 million from Singapore with the help of a foreign financing firm. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday flew to Tinian for talks brokered by leaders of the island municipality, but it was not clear if any agreement was reached.

#### 4 charged for cigarette smuggling

Four Koreans were charged yesterday with violations of customs laws and bribery after they attempted to smuggle in cartons of cigarettes into the CNMI with the aid of a customs officer. Chan Ho Park, Hyun Chol Cho, Keun Ja Hwang and Moon Ho Kim were ordered by Superior Court Presiding Judge Timothy Bellas to each post a bail of $10,000. They were apprehended after surveillance officers of the Attorney General's Investigation Unit found them bringing in close to 2,000 cartons of undeclared cigarettes.

### May 12, 2000

#### Legal opinion backs abortion

The CNMI government is now faced with a dilemma on how to deal with the abortion issue on the island in light of a legal opinion issued by the Attorney General's Office which says that any woman may legally obtain an abortion in the Northern Marianas. The legal opinion was crafted in 1995 but resurfaced after discussion on abortion was resurrected in the House of Representatives early this week that has drawn strong opposition from the Catholic church. Gov. Pedro P. Tenorio yesterday asked the AGO to review the constitutionality of abortion in the CNMI after meeting with religious leaders and members of the Legislature in a move to find a solution to the controversial issue which is now threatening to divide the predominantly Roman Catholic population.

#### Pepero: I will respect the party's decision

Lt. Gov. Jesus R. Sablan, who is eyeing the Republican nomination for next year's gubernatorial elections, has underscored the need to keep the party's unity after the GOP primary to ensure victory in the polls He pledged to throw his support behind whoever the party chooses as its standard bearer at the 2001 elections, saying that he also expects Republican opponents to back his candidacy if and when he wins in the primary. Mr. Sablan and running mate, Senate Vice President Thomas P. Villagomez, are facing the team of Representative to Washington Juan N. Babauta and Rep. Diego T. Benavente for the GOP's endorsement in the primary which is scheduled to be held later this year or early next year.

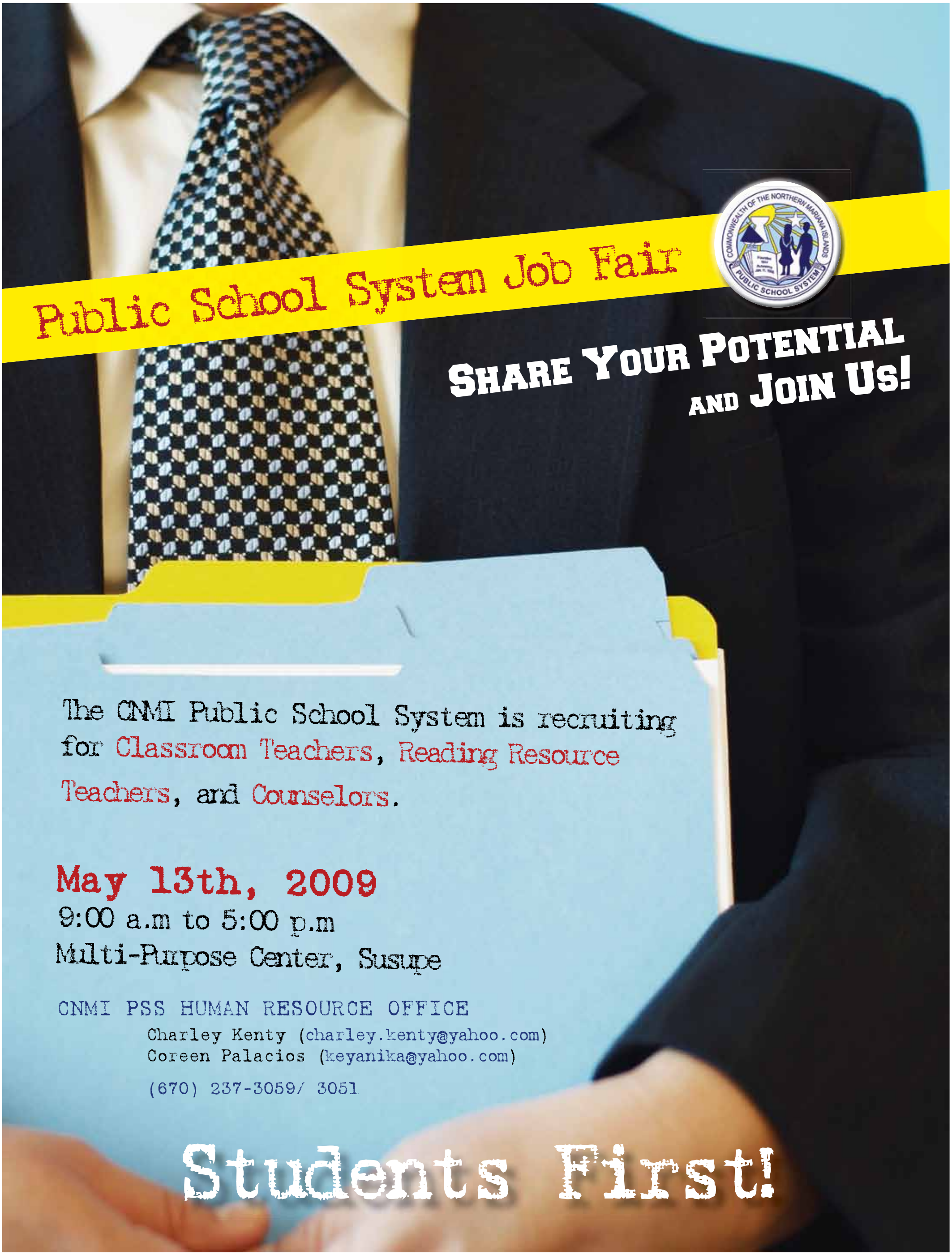
### May 12, 2003

#### PSS admits shortcomings on student performance

Public School System officials have admitted to the Legislature their shortcomings in adequately equipping high school students for a college education. "We raised the issue with PSS and they are aware of the situation and they themselves admitted that some of the students who graduate from high school are not as prepared as they would like them to be," said Rep. Daniel Quitugua. Quitugua, who is chairman of the House Committee on Education, met with PSS administrators last Friday to discuss recent reports indicating that 80 percent of PSS graduates undergo remedial classes at the Northern Marianas College.

#### WHO: No travel restrictions vs Philippines

The World Health Organization has clarified that it does not recommend any travel restrictions to Manila even as the Philippine government has reportedly filed a formal protest with the Geneva-based organization for alleged misclassification of the country as having "medium level" SARS transmission—the same category as Canada and Singapore—as of Friday. In its latest advisory, WHO acknowledged that cluster of Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome cases in Manila "have been well-contained." "There appears to be no increased transmission risk in the Philippines. For this reason, WHO does not recommend any restrictions on travel to the Philippines," it said.


Public School System Job Fair
COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
PUBLIC SCHOOL SYSTEM
SHARE YOUR POTENTIAL AND JOIN US!
The CNMI Public School System is recruiting for Classroom Teachers, Reading Resource Teachers, and Counselors.
May 13th, 2009
9:00 a.m to 5:00 p.m
Multi-Purpose Center, Susupe
CNMI PSS HUMAN RESOURCE OFFICE
Charley Kenty (charley.kenty@yahoo.com)
Coreen Palacios (keyanika@yahoo.com)
(670) 237-3059/ 3051
Students First!

# Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
CNMI'S FIRST DAILY NEWSPAPER
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MEMBER
The Associated Press
Pacific Islands News Association

## EDITORIAL

## Getting over the flu

It looks like health authorities and the public can breathe a sigh of cautious relief (covering their mouths, we hope) as new information indicates that although the flu formerly known as swine spreads easily, its severity appears on par with that of most other flu viruses.

That's not to trivialize the H1N1 strain or any other; influenza kills an average of 36,000 Americans a year. That's all the more reason why the diminished alarm doesn't present government officials with an opportunity to relax. Instead, they should build on lessons learned and work on bridging gaps in the nation's public health network.

Few of those gaps involve medical capability or communication tools. The government reacted to the flu decisively in the early days, when H1N1 appeared to be highly deadly, and was swift and organized at disseminating information. If some of those steps ultimately proved unhelpful or unnecessary—such as calling for schools to close for two weeks if a single student fell sick—we'd still rather see an abundance of action than a wait-and-see approach.

Where the nation's response most needs improvement is with long-term public policy. Legislation and public education campaigns should foster healthy individual actions—having people stay home when they first start feeling sick, for instance, or getting them to wash their hands frequently. That means laws requiring paid sick leave so that ailing employees don't have to choose between losing a few days' pay or sickening their co-workers. It requires changing the way schools are funded so that they don't lose money every day a student is out sick. Under the current system, many schools discourage parents from keeping ill children at home for anything short of a significant fever. And if years of public education have managed to put a dent in cigarette smoking, surely the same method can be used to teach the benefits of plain old soap.

The greatest danger would be complacency about the toll taken by flu. Epidemiologists warn that even if this outbreak proves milder than expected, the virus could return in a more dangerous form in the fall. Hopefully, by that time a vaccine will be available. Health authorities, meanwhile, should use the current sense of urgency to call for common-sense policies that will keep us all safer.

(c) 2009, Los Angeles Times

# Republicans feeling lost? Follow Britain's lead

**By JAMES FORSYTH**
*Special to* The Washington Post

*James Forsyth covers politics for the British magazine the* Spectator.

A shrinking base, a high-profile defection skillfully managed by the other side, an idiotic delight at how the party is becoming "purer"—that's the GOP today. And to British ears, it all sounds very familiar. It is distinctly reminiscent of the Conservative Party in Britain during the Tony Blair years.

As was the case with the Tories, many of the Republican Party's big beasts can't see the point in taking up its cause until the party is prepared to change. Tom Ridge, probably the only Republican who could win Arlen Specter's Senate seat in Pennsylvania, has declined to run for it, saying last week that the party is "too doggone shrill" and needs to be "less judgmental."

Ridge is right. The GOP is fumbling for direction. For one thing, it's bickering over sex. While party central remains steadfast in opposition to same-sex marriage, some Republican state legislators in Maine and New Hampshire voted for it last week. But here's a hopeful sign for the Republicans: In recent years, British conservatives have managed to make social conservatism socially acceptable again.

They've done it through three key moves: enthusiastically signing on to Britain's liberal settlement on homosexuality, recasting pro-family policies as part of an anti-poverty crusade and tying support for the family into a broader recognition that people aren't motivated by profit alone.

As a result, in the past few decades, social conservatism has not been the political force in Britain that it has been in the United States. Most British voters don't know their MP's position on abortion or gay rights, and no politicians have had to embark on Romneyesque shifts in their social positions before every campaign.

The Conservative Party last attempted to harness social conservatism—with disastrous consequences—in the 1990s. In 1993, Prime Minister John Major launched a "back to basics campaign," declaring, "We should condemn a little more and understand a little less." Having defeated the statist post-war consensus on economics, the party now set out to do the same on social policy. Single mothers were singled out for harsh criticism. It became a Tory talking point that young women were getting pregnant just to cut in line for state-provided housing.

Britain's tabloids saw this moralizing as an invitation to expose the love-children, adultery and other hypocrisies of Conservative parliamentarians. (Remarkably, Major had launched the campaign even though he had had an affair with a fellow MP only a few years before; this didn't become public, however, until long after he had left office.) All of this contributed to the party's rout in the 1997 election. Middle-of-the-road voters saw the Conservatives as hypocrites. As the party's chairman acknowledged in 2002, the Conservatives were perceived to be the "nasty party."

Because of this history, the Conservative achievement in making social conservatism socially acceptable is all the more remarkable.

In his first party conference as Conservative leader in 2006, David Cameron declared: "There's something special about marriage." But to the evident displeasure of some in the audience, he went on to say, "And by the way, it means something whether you're a man and a woman, a woman and a woman or a man and another man." By embracing civil unions, going out of his way to equate them to marriage, Cameron established his credentials for talking about social issues without being dragged into a discussion of gay rights.

The Conservatives then turned the tables on those opposed to state support for marriage. A think tank led by one of the party's former leaders amassed huge amounts of statistical evidence showing that married couples were more likely than unmarried couples to stay together when they had children, and that low-income children did far better in life if they were raised in a stable two-parent family. New Labor's mantra of "what matters is what works" was turned back on itself, because the data showed that marriage helps the poor.

Cameron's stance on social issues is crucial to keeping the party united. Many on the right are unhappy with his refusal to be explicit about how much government spending will have to fall to get the deficit under control. Or his reluctance to take on Labor more aggressively over its plans to raise taxes on income above 150,000 pounds (roughly $228,000) to 50 percent. But the belief that Cameron will tackle the country's social problems has kept them in line.

The polls show the Conservatives on course for a landslide victory in the next election, slated for spring 2010. It is tempting to say that Labor has managed the public finances so disastrously that the opposition will win no matter what. But Cameron doesn't alienate voters the way previous Conservative leaders did. Despite the bitterly anti-politics mood in Britain—according to a poll by the British polling firm Populus, two-thirds of voters think that a majority of MPs don't play by the rules and are improperly using government funds—56 percent approve of Cameron, according to another recent poll, while only 31 percent disapprove.

If the Republicans had those kinds of numbers, the cynical opportunists would be joining the party, not leaving it.

**EDITORIAL POLICY** The *Saipan Tribune* welcomes comments on any article, column, editorial, or topic that may be of interest to the public. Letters to the editor must include the name, address, and contact number of the contributor. Letters that are critical in nature should focus on issues, not personalities. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, CIC Centre, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

# Al Gore's N. Korean mission?

**WASHINGTON**—It sounds like a movie script: Two California women traverse a foreign country looking to write about oppressed and abused women. The well-intentioned souls disappear without a trace, snatched by government security forces and forced into a world of barren prison cells and mock trials for "espionage."

Yet this is not Hollywood. It is reality for Americans Euna Lee and Laura Ling, who are being held in North Korea.

In the coming days, Lee and Ling are likely to be put on trial in one of the darkest and most unjust places in the world. Two months ago, the San Francisco-based journalists were researching a story for former vice president Al Gore's television production group, Current TV, about the predatory trafficking of young North Korean women who dare to vote with their feet and escape across the border to China in search of a better life. While reportedly traveling along the Sino-North Korean border, Lee and Ling were accosted by North Korean security police, stripped of any rights and detained on accusations of espionage.

A trial of these two innocent Americans could result in their being sentenced to notorious labor camps that are reminiscent of Stalin's gulags. The North has previously held Americans—such as the crew of the USS Pueblo, captured in 1968, and a U.S. helicopter pilot, detained in the 1990s. The U.S. government eventually secured the captives' release.

Two Korean Americans who crossed into the North in the 1990s were also detained but released.

One of the U.S. president's most important responsibilities is to protect his country's citizens. Yet it appears that the Obama administration has done little to save these women.

To be fair, the United States has no diplomatic offices in North Korea to work on the issue. But there are other, if imperfect, channels, such as working through the Swedes or the Chinese.

Meanwhile, it does not help that North Korea's recent actions—including its test of a ballistic missile last month, its boycott of the six-party talks and its threats to conduct a second nuclear test—have effectively poured cold water on every attempt that President Obama has made to extend a hand to Pyongyang's mercurial leader. This spate of belligerent behavior stems less from anything Obama has done than from the internal fluidity created by the transition process that is apparently underway to replace the ailing Kim Jong Il.

> *The administration cannot stand by and watch these innocent women be thrown into the living hell of North Korean labor camps. Securing their safe passage home is the most important thing.*

The United States needs to send a high-level envoy to North Korea to bring these women home. The obvious candidate would be Gore. The North Koreans would respect someone of his stature, and his stake in the issue would make his mission eminently credible. Without fear of setting or breaking diplomatic precedent, he could issue whatever "apologies" were necessary to secure the two women's release; similar token apologies have been issued in the past.

Having participated in a mission to bring home the remains of American servicemen killed in the Korean War, I know that such humanitarian efforts afford opportunities to move the larger diplomatic situation forward. Some say that Obama's last message to North Korea was lost in the noise of Pyongyang's missile test and the punitive response of the United Nations. Now that there is a momentary lull in the noise, Gore could reiterate the president's message of peace and convey the administration's willingness to engage, thereby averting further nuclear brinkmanship by Pyongyang.

Some will argue that we should not respond to North Korean extortion tactics. In principle, we should not. But the administration cannot stand by and watch these innocent women be thrown into the living hell of North Korean labor camps. Securing their safe passage home is the most important thing. And gaining a glimpse into the emerging leadership in North Korea would be useful.

**By VICTOR D. CHA**
Special to The *Washington Post*

*The writer, a professor at Georgetown University and director of its School of Foreign Service's Asian Studies Department, was director of Asian affairs at the White House from 2004 to 2007. He traveled to Pyongyang, North Korea, with former veterans affairs secretary Anthony Principi and New Mexico Gov. Bill Richardson in April 2007 to retrieve six sets of American remains.*

## Letters to the Editor

# Of hopes and possibilities

It has been more than five years since I was introduced to a group simply known as MOVER. I can still vividly picture the first time I was introduced to the group one Sunday noon and most of the members were people who, I have learned, had stayed in the Marianas for a long time. Since then, I started joining the Sunday meeting of this group for I have witnessed the organization's primary goals and found it interesting, being involved in cleaning the environment and helping their fellow guest workers.

Picking up trash, cleaning seashores, restoring drainages along beaches, cutting bushes and all that is not easy work, especially when you are doing it during your supposed rest day. I often ask myself, "Don't these guys get enervated?" Yet they enjoy doing what most would find tiring. As time passed, I found out what motivates these people to do such unselfish chores. That is because they love the CNMI and have embraced the passion to take care of its environment because for them, the CNMI is their home. And so I became a member and have considered the group my second family.

But because things are transitory, mostly because of the status of guest workers, the group gradually depopulated. Some joined other groups and more went back to our homeland because their contracts were not renewed. Often, I have seen their reluctance to go home because they have spent their lives in the CNMI for a long time. I was always saddened by these repeated scenarios of guest workers going home. And the notion often crossed my mind that, if only they had the chance to stay longer or if their status is not transitory, then maybe I wouldn't be seeing sad faces and instead the same happy faces that I met five years ago.

For the past few months, I had these questions in mind. Is it be possible for guest workers who have stayed and have loved the CNMI for so long not be impermanent? If the federalization kicks in, will it grant them better status in the CNMI? Since I believe in facts, I started to mingle with friends and talked about Public Law 110-229. And an item in Section 6 of P.L. 110-229 caught our attention. The paragraph is titled "Report on Nonresident Guestworker Population." The paragraph says, "The Secretary of the Interior, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, and the Governor of CNMI, shall report to the Congress not later than 2 years after the date of the enactment of the Consolidated Natural Resources Act of 2008. The report shall include: (1) the number of aliens residing in the CNMI; (2) a description of the legal status of such aliens; (3) the number of years each alien has been residing in the CNMI; (4) the current and future requirements of the CNMI economy for an alien workforce; and (5) such recommendations to the Congress, as the Secretary may deem appropriate, related to whether or not the Congress should consider permitting lawfully admitted guest workers lawfully residing in the CNMI on such enactment date to apply for long-term status under the immigration and nationality laws of the United States." Sharing thoughts and ideas with my friends and reading each line again and again made me feel that there are answers to my questions. Answers with hopes and possibilities.

Based on my understanding, if the Secretary of Interior is required to submit such a report to Congress and this report will be used by Congress as a basis whether lawfully admitted guest workers may or may not be permitted to apply for long-term status, then there is a possibility for Congress to consider allowing guest workers to apply for long-term status.

With these, I would like to end my lines by asking the Secretary of Interior to please provide such a report to the Congress… a report that can lead to answers to my questions and the plight of many amongst us. Lastly, for the U.S. Congress, please consider and reconsider the status of guest workers in the CNMI.

**Ernest M. Maicle**
*Gualo Rai, Saipan*

# A man's word

As manager and coaches of the Kagman Lion Hearts we would like to first of all extend our sincere apology for the incident leading to the protest of the first playoff game in the Junior League Division by Ol'Aces, which took place on May 10, 2009.

We take full responsibility and accept whatever decision the board imposes, as we came into this ball game fully aware that one of our players may be in violation of the uniform policy. However, we would like to request that we are given a chance to explain what happened.

Prior to our scheduled game we noticed that one of the players, Aldofo Guillermo Roppul, who replaced one of our other players currently under suspension, was wearing a uniform that had "Kings" instead of "Hearts" on the lettering. Although the color of the uniform is exactly the same, the name printed on the shirt was not. It is for this reason that our head coach, Mr. Wally Emul, spoke to one of the Ol'Aces coaches, Mr. Mark Flores, while the teams were still practicing and agreed that both team would play without disruption by protest because of uniform violation. This conversation took place in the presence of the chief umpire, Mr. Roy Celis. In addition, prior to the game starting, Mr. Tony Flores, manager for Ol'Aces, approached our assistant coach, Mr. Syl Ada, while both teams were already in the dugout areas and informed Mr. Ada that two of his players were wearing pants with faded stripes and requested if both teams could proceed with the game without disruption by protest. Both Mr. Emul and Mr. Ada gave their word that a protest would not be made from their side and requested that the other team reciprocate the same favor, in which both Mr. Mark and Mr. Anthony Flores gave their word that they would proceed without any disruption.

We are responsible for taking the word of the manager and coach from the opposing team. We believed that a "man's word is a man's word." It is very unfortunate that they went back on their word after the game had started. Again, we are deeply sorry to have caused our players, their parents and our fans with such inconvenience and emotional stress.

Your understanding and support are greatly appreciated.

**Dolores Emul**
*Manager*

**Wally Emul**
*Head Coach*

**Sylvio Ada**
*Assistant Coach*

# Pray remove the pudding

Regarding the letter in defense of Howard and Deanne, I would agree that the high road is best traveled and all deserve compensation for their labor, but residents of the CNMI have valid concerns regarding this matter. Anyone drafting Public Law 15-108, or helping with the disgraceful case against America, that vilified citizens including the federal ombudsman, attacked CNMI Rep. Tina Sablan, participated in ghost-writing letters for the CNMI Department of Labor, lobbied to block the first minimum wage increase here in a decade, or supported the status quo of servitude that has shamed the CNMI and America for a generation, should be considered a liability to the improvement and future of our Commonwealth.

Deanne Siemer's reputation for ethics precedes her. Her past testimony has, according to Judge Roush—a highly regarded Washington D.C. judge who awarded $500,000 in a small matter that involved Siemer—lacked credibility. Read the full account of this tale at http://www.fr.com/jjs/breakingup.pdf and perhaps you will sympathize with the concerns decent citizens of the CNMI have with her involvement, paid or otherwise, in CNMI departmental affairs.

Siemer's response letter to Tina was arrogant, shocking, and fundamentally deceptive. While volunteers have a noble past in health care, child protection, and social justice, free help with legal maneuvering, policy manipulation, and human exploitation pollute the term volunteer and could be used to cloak impropriety, or shield future liability. Disingenuous input into governmental affairs could irreparably harm citizens here and the CNMI may be better served by their removal. These unscrupulous antics should not tarnish the reputations of the good-natured people of these islands.

**Ron Hodges**
*via e-mail*

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam Homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

# The Weather

## 5-Day Forecast for Saipan and Tinian

| TODAY | WEDNESDAY | THURSDAY | FRIDAY | SATURDAY |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Mostly sunny with solated showers. East winds 10 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with a slight chance of showers. East winds 5 to 15 mph. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. | Partly cloudy with isolated showers. |
| ▲87° ▼77° | ▲88° ▼78° | ▲87° ▼79° | ▲87° ▼79° | ▲87° ▼79° |

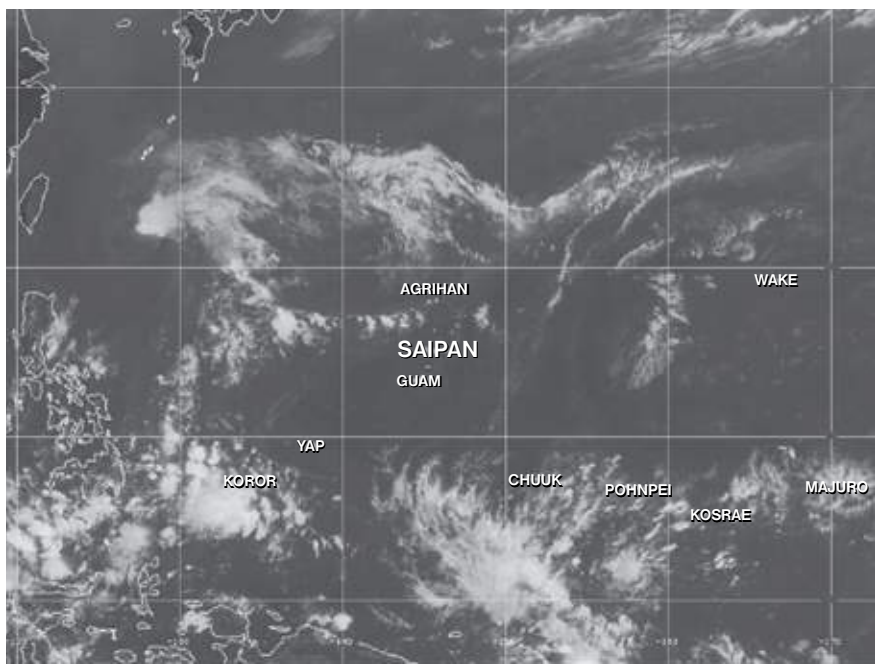
## Micronesia

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Guam and Rota | Showers | ▲88 | ▼79 |
| Palau | Showers | ▲87 | ▼78 |
| Yap | Showers | ▲86 | ▼77 |
| Chuuk | Showers | ▲88 | ▼76 |
| Pohnpei | Showers | ▲88 | ▼79 |
| Kosrae | Showers | ▲87 | ▼79 |
| Majuro | Showers | ▲86 | ▼79 |

## Around The Globe

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| Auckland | Showers | ▲57 | ▼46 |
| Beijing | Sunny | ▲84 | ▼59 |
| Hong Kong | Partly Sunny | ▲88 | ▼75 |
| Honolulu | Mostly Sunny | ▲82 | ▼72 |
| London | Rain | ▲61 | ▼56 |
| Los Angeles | Cloudy | ▲78 | ▼58 |
| Manila | Thundershowers | ▲88 | ▼79 |
| Melbourne | Mostly Sunny | ▲63 | ▼50 |
| Miami | Mostly Sunny | ▲87 | ▼74 |
| New York | Cloudy | ▲67 | ▼51 |
| Osaka | Cloudy | ▲77 | ▼62 |
| Paris | Showers | ▲69 | ▼58 |
| Pusan | Rain | ▲68 | ▼59 |
| Rome | Mostly Sunny | ▲77 | ▼56 |
| Salem | Showers | ▲57 | ▼41 |
| San Francisco | Partly Sunny | ▲66 | ▼51 |
| Seoul | Showers | ▲75 | ▼52 |
| Tokyo | Cloudy | ▲78 | ▼62 |
| Washington, DC | Mostly Sunny | ▲70 | ▼50 |

## Yesterday's Satellite Image




**PICTURE TIME: 1:00PM, MONDAY, MAY 11, 2009**
Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

A weak shear line extends from 23N130E to 17N137E to 17N144E to 25N155E. Scattered showers are found within 50 miles of the shear line including the Northern Marianas between Anatahan and Pagan. A weak surface trough extends northeastward from 2N131E to 6N134E. Converging winds near the trough axis are generating scattered showers and a few thunderstorms over Koror or between 4N and 9N from 130E to 137E. Trade-wind convergence is producing scattered showers and a few thunderstorms south of Chuuk and Pohnpei between the equator and 7N from 144E to 160E and east of Majuro between 2N and 8N from 175E to 180.

## Tides

| Saipan Harbor | | |
|---|---|---|
| 3:51 AM Today | Low Tide: | 1.3 Feet |
| 8:19 AM Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |
| 3:53 PM Today | Low Tide: | 0.2 Feet |
| 11:08 PM Today | High Tide: | 1.8 Feet |

## Sunrise/Sunset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 5:49 AM | 6:38 PM |
| Wednesday | 5:49 AM | 6:38 PM |
| Thursday | 5:49 AM | 6:38 PM |
| Friday | 5:48 AM | 6:38 PM |
| Saturday | 5:48 AM | 6:39 PM |

## Moonrise/Moonset

| | | |
|---|---|---|
| Today | 9:23 PM | 7:52 AM |
| Wednesday | 10:11 PM | 8:44 AM |
| Thursday | 10:56 PM | 9:36 AM |
| Friday | 11:37 PM | 10:27 AM |
| Saturday | | 11:17 AM |

## GET YOUR PICTURES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS PUBLISHED—FOR FREE

The *Saipan Tribune* accepts for FREE publication the following:

**PICTURES**

- ISLAND SNAPSHOTS
  Birthdays, baptisms, christenings, family gatherings, reunions, club activities, and other community-related events.
- BIRTHDAY GREETINGS
  A way for families and friends to greet their loved ones, accompanied by a picture of the person celebrating his/her birthday.
- BUSINESS
  Corporate donations, volunteer work, promotions, granting of awards, team-building exercises, meetings and other activities by members of the business community.
- SAMU'T SARI
  Pictures from the islands' Filipino community, primarily focusing on Filipino activities, gatherings, get-togethers, volunteer work, etc.
- TRAVELOGUE
  Pictures of off-island travels. Contributors may submit up to 10 pictures for consideration.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- COMMUNITY BRIEFS
  Announcements of upcoming activities of organizations, community clubs, government agencies, and private companies.
- CAMPUS BULLETIN
  Announcements of upcoming activities in public and private schools, as well as calendar of activities. May include PTSA meetings, enrollment procedures.

**REQUIREMENTS**

**For pictures:**
- Photos should be original and not copyrighted. Contributors must have the right to allow the *Saipan Tribune* to publish the pictures.
- Digital pictures should be high-resolution (minimum of 800kb).
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and phone number.
- Photos must have been taken in the last two months.
- For birthday greetings, must be submitted no later than 12 noon of the previous day to make it to next day's edition.

**For announcements:**
- Must have complete details (who, what, where, when), the name of contact person, and a phone number.
- Must be submitted no later than 12 noon to make it to next day's edition.

**HOW TO SUBMIT**

- E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com or jayvee_vallejera@saipantribune.com.
- Fax: (670) 235-3740
- Mail: PMB 34, P.O. Box 10001, Saipan, CNMI 96950
- Drop off: 2nd Floor, CIC Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan
  To check if contributions are received, call (670) 235-6397, 235-2440, 235-8747

**POLICY**

- The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to accept or reject a contribution for publication; the right to edit all contributions, the date of publication, size of the picture, and page placement; and the right to publish contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats.
- The *Saipan Tribune* will decide how often community announcements are going to be published.
- For Travelogue, the *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to choose which pictures to publish.

## NMI CRIME STOPPERS

Anonymous tips can now be submitted through the following:
- Call 234-7272 (PARA) on any telephone
- *11 on any PTI cellular phone
- Log on to the internet at www.nmicrimestoppers.com

**NEWS DESK** For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

**CUSTOMER SERVICE** For inquiries, purchase of back issues and complaints, call (670) 235-8747, 235-2440, fax 235-3740.

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**ADVERTISING** For inquiries contact (670) 235-2769. E-mail: sales@saipantribune.com

## FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF MAY 9, 2009

### DEPARTURES

**SAIPAN-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO9597 | 11:50am | 12:25pm | 1,7 |

**SAIPAN-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO9317 | 4:30am | 5:20am | Daily |
| CO9313 | 8:30am | 9:20am | Daily |
| CO9597 | 11:50am | 1:20pm | 1, 7 |
| CO9601 | 12:30pm | 1:20pm | 4, 5 |
| CO9603 | 3:30pm | 4:20pm | Daily |
| CO9605 | 6:30pm | 7:20pm | Daily |
| CO9599 | 9:30pm | 10:20pm | Daily |

**GUAM-ROTA (ROP)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO9598 | 2:20am | 2:50am | 5, 6 |
| CO9312 | 12:10pm | 12:40pm | 6 |

**GUAM-PALAU (ROR)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO893 | 5:50pm | 6:50pm | 3, 5 |
| CO953 | 6:50pm | 7:50pm | 1, 7 |
| CO953 | 7:35pm | 10:05pm | 2, 4, 6 |

**PALAU (ROR)-MANILA**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO893 | 7:35pm | 9:10pm | 3, 5 |

**GUAM-MANILA**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO893 | 5:50pm | 9:10pm | 3, 5 via ROR |
| CO933 | 7:00pm | 8:40pm | Daily |
| PR111 | 6:00am | 7:45am | 1, 2, 4, 6, 7 |

**SAIPAN-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW99 | 6:00am | 8:40am | Daily |
| NW78 | 9:00am | 2:05pm | Daily via NGO |
| NW75 | 3:50pm | 6:25am | Daily |

**GUAM-NARITA (NRT)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO961 | 6:35am | 9:10am | Daily |
| NW83 | 8:00am | 1:55pm | Daily via KIX |
| CO6 | 12:00pm | 2:45pm | Daily |
| NW73 | 4:05pm | 7:00pm | Daily |
| CO963 | 4:35pm | 7:15pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-OSAKA (KIX)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 6:40am | 1 |
| OZ119 | 4:20am | 7:00am | 4,6 |

**GUAM-OSAKA (KIX)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW83 | 8:00am | 10:45am | Daily |

**SAIPAN-NAGOYA (NGO)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW78 | 9:00am | 11:40am | Daily |

**GUAM-NAGOYA (NGO)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO971 | 7:45am | 10:30am | Daily |
| NW23 | 4:10pm | 7:05pm | Daily |
| CO975 | 4:35pm | 7:25pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ608 | 3:20am | 6:50am | 1, 5 |

**SAIPAN-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ604 | 2:20am | 6:00am | 1 |
| OZ604 | 2:50am | 6:30am | excl 1 |
| OZ119 | 4:00am | 11:20am | 1 via KIX |
| OZ119 | 4:20am | 11:20am | 4, 6 via KIX |

**SEOUL (ICN)-HONG KONG**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ721 | 9:05am | 11:45am | Daily |
| OZ723 | 7:45pm | 10:30pm | Daily |

**SEOUL (ICN)-MANILA**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ701 | 8:35am | 11:25am | Daily |
| OZ703 | 7:50pm | 10:50pm | Daily |

**SAIPAN-SHANGHAI**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM844 | 2:50am | 5:40am | 2, 6 |

### ARRIVALS

**ROTA (ROP)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO9598 | 3:25am | 4:00am | 5, 6 |
| CO9312 | 1:20pm | 1:55pm | 6 |

**GUAM-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO9316 | 2:20am | 3:10am | 1, 2, 3, 4, 7 |
| CO9598 | 2:20am | 4:00am | 5, 6 via ROP |
| CO9596 | 7:00am | 5:00am | Daily |
| CO9600 | 10:20am | 11:10am | Daily x6 |
| CO9312 | 12:10pm | 1:55pm | 6 |
| CO9602 | 2:00pm | 2:50pm | 1, 4, 5, 7 |
| CO9604 | 5:00pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| CO9606 | 8:00pm | 8:50pm | Daily |

**ROTA (ROP)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO9597 | 12:50pm | 1:20pm | 1, 7 |

**PALAU (ROR)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO954 | 1:10am | 5:30am | 3, 5, 7 |
| CO954 | 1:45am | 4:40am | 1, 2 |
| CO892 | 2:35am | 5:30am | 4, 6 |

**MANILA-PALAU (ROR)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO892 | 10:10pm | 1:50am+1 | 3, 5 |

**MANILA-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| CO892 | 10:10pm | 5:30am+1 | 3, 5 via ROR |
| CO934 | 10:55pm | 4:30am+1 | Daily |
| PR110 | 10:00pm | 4:00am | 1, 3, 5, 6, 7 |

**NARITA (NRT)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW76 | 10:00am | 2:35pm | Daily |
| NW77 | 6:30pm | 1:40am+1 | Daily via NGO |
| NW100 | 7:50pm | 12:30am+1 | Daily |

**NARITA (NRT)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW74 | 10:00am | 2:50pm | Daily |
| CO962 | 10:30am | 3:00pm | Daily |
| CO7 | 3:50pm | 8:25pm | Daily |
| NW84 | 6:20pm | 1:40am+1 | Daily |
| CO964 | 8:25pm | 1:00am+1 | Daily |
| NW82 | 8:30pm | 1:05am+1 | 4 |
| NW82 | 8:30pm | 1:20am+1 | X 4 |

**OSAKA (KIX)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ120 | 9:55pm | 2:20am+1 | 3, 5, 6 |

**OSAKA (KIX)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW84 | 9:05pm | 1:40am+1 | Daily |

**NAGOYA (NGO)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW77 | 9:10pm | 1:40am | Daily |

**NAGOYA (NGO)-GUAM**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| NW24 | 10:00am | 2:35pm | Daily |
| CO970 | 11:30am | 4:30pm | Daily |
| CO972 | 8:25pm | 12:55am+1 | Daily |

**BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ607 | 9:00pm | 2:20am+1 | 4, 7 |

**SEOUL (ICN)-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ120 | 7:10pm | 2:20am+1 | 3, 5, 6 via KIX |
| OZ603 | 7:40pm | 1:10am+1 | 7 |
| OZ603 | 8:10pm | 1:40am+1 | excl 7 |

**HONG KONG-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ724 | 12:30am | 5:05am | Daily |
| OZ722 | 1:15pm | 5:45pm | Daily |

**MANILA-SEOUL (ICN)**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| OZ702 | 12:45pm | 5:45pm | Daily |
| OZ704 | 11:50pm | 4:40am+1 | Daily |

**SHANGHAI-SAIPAN**

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| FM843 | 7:15pm | 1:50am+1 | 1, 5 |

Editor's Note: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); CO: Continental; FM: Shanghai Airlines; PR: Philippine Airlines; NW: Northwest; OZ: Asiana
ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)

## FREEDOM AIR FLIGHT SCHEDULE

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:00am | 7:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 100 | 7:50am | 8:20am | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:00am | 9:30am | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 200 | 9:50am | 10:15am | Daily |
| **Guam-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:00pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Saipan** | | | |
| FRE 300 | 4:50pm | 5:25pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Rota** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:00pm | 6:30pm | Daily |
| **Rota-Guam** | | | |
| FRE 400 | 6:45pm | 7:15pm | Daily |
| **Saipan-Tinian** | | | |
| FRE 101 | 6:45am | 6:55am | Daily |
| FRE 103 | 7:30am | 7:40am | Daily |
| FRE 105 | 8:00am | 8:10am | Daily |
| FRE 107 | 8:40am | 8:50am | Daily |
| FRE 109* | 9:10am | 9:20am | Daily |
| FRE 111* | 10:45am | 10:55am | Daily |

| Airline | ETD | ETA | Frequency |
|---|---|---|---|
| FRE 113 | 11:40am | 11:50am | Daily |
| FRE 115 | 1:00pm | 1:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 117 | 2:30pm | 2:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 119 | 4:00pm | 4:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 121 | 4:40pm | 4:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 123 * | 5:40pm | 5:50pm | Daily |
| FRE 125 * | 6:00pm | 6:10pm | Daily |
| **Tinian-Saipan w/ connecting flights to Rota or Guam**** | | | |
| FRE 102 | 7:05am | 7:15am | Daily |
| FRE 104 | 7:50am | 8:00am | Daily |
| FRE 106** | 8:20am | 8:30am | Daily |
| FRE 108** | 9:00am | 9:10am | Daily |
| FRE 110 | 10:00am | 10:10am | Daily |
| FRE 112 | 11:05am | 11:15am | Daily |
| FRE 114 | 12:00pm | 12:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 116 | 1:30pm | 1:40pm | Daily |
| FRE 118 | 2:50pm | 3:00pm | Daily |
| FRE 120** | 4:20pm | 4:30pm | Daily |
| FRE 122** | 5:00pm | 5:10pm | Daily |
| FRE 124 | 6:05pm | 6:15pm | Daily |
| FRE 126 | 6:20pm | 6:30pm | Daily |

# Beach Road magazine Car Rally set on June 13

By NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.
n_rodriguez@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

The 3rd Annual Car Rally will be held on June 13 and this early, organizer *Beach Road Magazine* said entry forms are now available with a minimal fee of $15.

The magazine's account manager, Susan Marchitti, said participating drivers must be 16 years old or above.

Winners will win cash prizes with the awarding ceremonies to be held immediately after the rally.

"Encourage families and tourists to join. Bring as much people as you can but they must be in seat belts," said Marchitti.

Introduced on Saipan for the first time two years ago, this event is a form of motoring competition on public or private roads where a driver and navigator(s) work together to try to match wits with the organizer who has given them instructions with a route to follow. The course is predetermined, but will not be revealed in advance.

Every car gets a set of instructions that may contain tricks, traps and diagrams designed to steer them off course, so it's important to pay close attention and remain alert.

Questions that pertain to the course itself will need to be answered along the way, so drivers need to stay on track.

There may also be items to find or collect, which will need to be presented at the end for extra points.

Each car will leave the start at two-minute intervals and proceed to a checkpoint where they will get a new set of instructions.

"The event is timed, but it is not a race. The winner is the driver that best matches the speed, time and distance requirements with the greatest precision," Marchitti noted.

A time allowance is allotted to each team, which they can use if they arrive late or early at checkpoints due to traffic, bad weather, getting lost, etc.

All traffic and safety laws will be enforced, and each driver must provide a valid driver's license, proof of insurance, and current registration.

Participants are welcome to decorate their car for the event, granted it is legal and safe.

This year, the rally is open to visitors, company-sponsored teams and drivers 16 and over (parental consent waiver is required for those 18 and below).

Registration forms are available in Beach *Road Magazine* and soon at Subway Restaurants. Entry forms can be dropped off at the second floor of the Transpac Business Center in Gualo Rai on Chalan Pale Arnold Road, with the $15 entry fee.

After dropping off your entry form, all participants will receive a copy of the Car Rally Rules, which will give a more detailed description of the event and indicate what kinds of things to expect on the instructions.

For more information, call Marchitti at 234-6449 or 483-3145. Prizes will be awarded at an awards party at a yet to be announced location.

As of Friday afternoon, four companies have confirmed sponsorships for this year's event: American Red Cross, Brown Tree Snake, Budget Car Rental, and Joeten Enterprises, Inc.

## Coast Guard leads Micronesian patrol boat training

**GUAM**–Patrol boats from Coast Guard Sector Guam and the Republic of Palau participated in the third annual Exercise Sea Guardian on April 28 to May 2, in Palau. This was the first time the event was held outside Guam.

Palau relies on a healthy fishing industry and enforcement of its economic exclusive zone. By conducting joint exercises, Coast Guard Sector Guam and its Micronesian partner agencies increase their overall law enforcement effectiveness and share knowledge and techniques that enhance regional security.

In late April, the Coast Guard cutter *Washington* sailed to Palau to meet up with the patrol boat PSS *President H.I. Remeliik.* The crews of the CGC *Washington* and PSS *H. I. Remeliik*, three members from CG Sector Guam, along with members of Palau's Office of the Attorney General, conducted joint fisheries and transnational law enforcement training and exercises.

Lectures and practical training focused on boarding procedures, evidence gathering, case package preparation, and courtroom procedures. The scenario-based training included mock boardings and even mock trials held in Palau's Supreme Courthouse. The week of exercises and training concluded with a "Damage Control Olympics" competition as the international teams competed in firefighting, pipe and hull patching, and other maritime damage control events.

LCDR Gina Freeman, chief of Sector Guam Response Department, said: "The intent behind Sea Guardian was to bring the patrol boats from the Republic of Palau and Guam together to improve regional maritime security through shared training and understanding of capabilities and procedures. This year we succeeded in accomplishing what we set out to do."

"Exercise Sea Guardian has increased the likelihood of successful prosecutions of illegal, unregulated, and unreported fishing activity and other transnational crimes in the waters surrounding Palau and the U.S. territory of Guam," she added.

Palau's Bureau of Public Safety director Norvert Yano and Sector Guam Commanding Officer Thomas Sparks were also in attendance and gave speeches at the closing ceremony. ***(USCG)***

# PAWS looking for some good homes for these animals

PAWS has numerous animals that are in need of a good home.

Seven puppies are up for adoption at a local residence. The puppies are approximately 6-7 weeks old and have been dewormed. If you are interested in adopting one or more of these puppies, contact Sonny Downer at 989-9059 or via e-mail at sonny.downer@gmail.com.

Four puppies are up for adoption at Paradise Island Animal Hospital. The puppies have been treated for worms, fleas/ticks, and vaccinated. If you are interested in adopting one or more of these friendly little guys, contact PIAH at 234-9669 or stop by for a look!

A friendly female dog showed up at a house in As Matius and is now ready for adoption. She has a lovely coat and understands basic commands, such as "sit." She is thought to be about 2-3 years old, and is friendly with other animals. If you are interested in adopting this young lady, contact Jill at 322-3425 or via e-mail at jilld@pticom.com.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
These puppies are approximately 6-7 weeks old and have been dewormed.

Spanky, a neutered male cat, is in need of a loving home. Spanky is about 2-3 years of age, loves to have his head scratched and snuggle. If you are interested in adopting Spanky, call 256-1091.

Aladdin is a 1 1/2 year old male cat, neutered, and up to date on his shots. He is grey/white with blue eyes and lots of personality. He is litter box trained and great with kids and dogs. If you are interested in adopting Aladdin, call PAWS at 285-PAWS. Leave a message with your name and an evening phone number, and a PAWS volunteer will call you back in the evening.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Above, this female dog showed up at a house in As Matius and is now ready for adoption.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Left, Spanky, a neutered male cat, is in need of a loving home.

# NOTICE OF DESTRUCTION OF VESSELS

The public is hereby notified of the presence of two abandoned vessels, SAN PEDRO and MEANA III, at the Smiling Cove Marina, managed by the CNMI Division of Fish and Wildlife ("DFW"). The last known owners of record for the vessels are Quirino Adlaon and Masashi Uchida, respectively. Over $9,317.00 is owed in wharfage fees to the Smiling Cove Marina for the vessel SAN PEDRO and over $3,411.10 is owed for MEANA III.

The owner of either of these vessels must contact Roque Santos, Manager of the Smiling Cove Marina, to assert his ownership interest within thirty (30) days of DFW will remove/destroy/dispose of these vessels pursuant to law.

Members of the public may contact Mr. Santos if they have an interest taking one or both of these vessels in an "as is" condition after the 30-day notification period has run, if no legal owner has been identified.

# Island Snapshots

## PARADE OF BOOKS

Oleai Elementary School students cheer as they emerged as first place winners for their interpretation of the classic children's fairy tale *Beauty and the Best* during the Rotary Club of Saipan's annual Parade of Books on Saturday in the Marianas High School gymnasium.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## THIRD PLACE WINNERS

Garapan Elementary School's performance of *Hansel and Gretel* bagged the third prize during the Rotary Club of Saipan's annual Parade of Books on Saturday in the Marianas High School gymnasium.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## LION KING

San Vicente Elementary School students in their performance of the popular children's story *The Lion King* during the Rotary Club of Saipan's annual Parade of Books on Saturday in the Marianas High School gymnasium. San Vicente Elementary School won the second prize, as well as the best producer and best spirit awards.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## LITTLE MERMAID

Grace Christian Academy students perform a scene from the classic children's story *Little Mermaid* during the Rotary Club of Saipan's annual Parade of Books on Saturday in the Marianas High School gymnasium. Grace Christian Academy bagged the second prize.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## RAPT AUDIENCE

Rotary Club of Saipan officers and judges compute the final tally as the audience wait for the announcement of winners during the Rotary Club of Saipan's annual Parade of Books on Saturday in the Marianas High School gymnasium.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## HAWAIIAN PIGS

Koblerville Elementary School students perform a scene from the children's story *The Three Hawaiian Pigs and the Magic Shark* during the Rotary Club of Saipan's annual Parade of Books on Saturday in the Marianas High School gymnasium.

HAIDEE V. EUGENIO

## DIRECTOR FOR THE DAY

Rosa Limes Peter served as Division of Environmental Quality director on May 8, 2009, as part of Mes Man'Amko (Older Citizens Month). Peter said she enjoyed attending meetings and meeting with the environmental staff.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

To Eloise Castro, belated happy Mother's Day to a wonderful, caring and loving Mom, from your loving children, family and friends

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## MANTA RAY FUNDRAISER

Saipan Southern High School JROTC Manta Ray Battalion hosts a fundraising luncheon on April 4, 2009, at the Oleai Beach Pavilion. It was the battalion's second luncheon of the year and, just like the first, a successful one. The battalion thanks Dela Cruz Catering, which provided the delicious food, and all the customers. "We couldn't have done it without you. We hope to see you all on our next fundraising luncheon. Once again, the Manta Ray Battalion would like to thank you all!"

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## HAPPY MOTHER'S DAY

A belated happy Mother's Day greetings to Jamie Palacios, a wonderful and loving mom. Greetings come from your loving family and friends.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A belated Happy Mother's Day to the most wonderful and loving mother, Merced Sikyang! We love you! From your husband, children and grandchildren.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

## DAY OF PRAYER

Church pastors join Mayor Juan B. Tudela, third from left, during the proclamation signing of the National Day of Prayer on Saipan on May 7. From left are pastors Jose F. Enteria, Noel G. Puno, Raffy L. Armia, Danny A. Ibanez and Paul C. Medina.

NAZARIO RODRIGUEZ JR.

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**Office of the Secretary of Public Works**
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

**INVITATION FOR BIDS**
**DPW09-IFB-011**

**CONSTRUCTION OF ROUTE 31 CROSS ISLAND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 1, SAIPAN CM-NH-0031 (013)**

Governor Benigno R. Fitial and Acting Lt. Governor Eloy S. Inos, through the Department of Public Works (DPW) are soliciting sealed bids for the Construction of Route 31 Cross Island Road Phase 1, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands **(SAIPAN).**

The project package will be available on or after April 28, 2009 at Pacific Quick Print & Post, Chalan Pale Arnold, Saipan. A non-refundable payment to Pacific Quick Print & Post, amount to be determined, is required for each set. All interested bidders are also required to include Insurer Clearance Certification (ICC) in their bid packages in order to bid on this project. The ICC can be obtained at the Department of Commerce/Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC) on Capitol Hill.

Bidding procedures shall be in full compliance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations, dated May 24, 2001, however, Article 7, "Local Business Preference", as amended by Public Law 15-95 and as further amended by Public Law 15-118, **is not available** to local bidders in this procurement because its use is prohibited by the Federal law granting the funding for this project. All wages rates for employees performing the work, labor and services on this project shall be paid the current minimum wages as required by the CNMI law & Federa Law.

There will be a Pre-bid Conference for this project on May 15, 2009, 9:00 a.m. local time at the Department of Public Works Conference Room, Gualo Rai Office. The Prospective bidders are encouraged to familiarize themselves with the site. All questions regarding this project must be submitted in writing no later than 4:30 p.m. local time on May 22, 2009 to **Mr. Joseph M. Inos Jr., Director of Technical Services Division**, 2nd floor-Joeten Commercial Building, Oleai Center, Saipan or fax to (670) 234-3547.

Sealed bids must be marked **"DPW09-IFB-011"**. For bidders within the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be submitted to the Director of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 10,2009. Bidders located outside of the CNMI may obtain an additional Seven (7) working days for receipt of their bids by submitting a Notice of Intent to bid. Notices of Intent to bid must be received by the Director of Procurement and Supply no later than 10:00 a.m. local time June 10, 2009, and must be transmitted via facsimile to (670) 664-1515, or via e-mail to procurement@pticom.com. For bidders located outside the CNMI, an original and two copies of sealed bids must be postmarked by the U.S. Postal Service or the official government postal service of a foreign country no later than June 10, 2009, and must be received no later than June 19, 2009. Note that failure to submit the required number of copies may be cause for rejection of a bid.

Bids will be publicly opened and read at the Division of Procurement and Supply, Lower Base, Saipan, at 10 :00 a.m. local time, June 24, 2009, However, if no notices of intent to bid were received from bidders outside the CNMI, bids will be opened at 10:00 a.m. local time, on June 16, 2009.

For bids greater than Twenty-Five Thousand Dollars **($25,000.00)** a bid security of fifteen (15%) of the bid amount must accompany the bid. This security may be Certified Check, Cashier's Check or Bid Bond. Checks must be made payable to the CNMI Treasurer, with the name of the bidder and a notation on the face of the check: "Credit Account No. 44660". A surety company shall hold the certificate of authority (COA) from the U.S. Secretary of the Treasury as an acceptable surety or other surety acceptable to the Attorney General.

The bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be subject to a responsibility determination in conformance with the CNMI Procurement Regulations Section 3-301. The responsible bidder submitting the lowest responsive bid will be awarded a contract with the CNMI Government and will be required to deliver Performance and Payment bonds, each equal to 100% of the contract price for contracts greater than $25,000.00. The surety company providing the Performance and payment bonds must hold a Certificate of Authority from the U.S. Department of Treasury as an acceptable surety and must be authorized to conduct business in the CNMI.

Performance time for completion of this project is three hundred **(300) working days** upon issuance of Notice to Proceed. Liquidated damages for delays beyond the established completino date will be assessed according to Table 108-1 of the Standard Specification for Construction Roads and Bridges on Federal Project, FP-96, or $1,400.00 whichever is greater.

This project is funded in part by a grant from the U.S. Department of Transportation (DOT), Federal Highway Administration (FHWA). Contract award is contigent upon funding approval by the FHWA.

All bid documents received shall become the sole property of the CNMI Government. The Government reserves the right to reject any or all bids and to waive any imperfection in a bid proposal that does not affect the elements of price, quantity, and delivery of the bid, in the best interest of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Island.

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

/s/ HERMAN S. SABLAN
Director of Procurement & Supply

**Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands**
**Office of the Secretary of Public Works**
2nd Floor Joeten Commercial Building, Gualo Rai
Saipan, MP 96950

# ADDENDUM NO. 1

**May 7, 2009**

## DPW 09-IFB-011
## CONSTRUCTION OF ROUTE 31 CROSS ISLAND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS, PHASE 1, SAIPAN

1. **General:** The following revisions, additions, corrections, and/or clarifications to the specifications and drawings shall apply to the work affected thereby. Careful note of this Addendum shall be taken by the bidder/contractor, and all trades affected shall be fully advised toeh information contained herein. In the event of a conflict between drawings, specifications and this Addendum, the contents of this Addendum must be brought to the attention of the Contracting Officer for the resolution. **Failure to acknowledge this bid Addendum is accordance with instructions may subject your bid to rejection on the affected item(s)/service(s).**

2. **Pre-Bid, Submission of Sealed Bids, and Bid Opening Dates;** are suspended indefinitely until further notice.

**All other requirements of the Invitation for Bids of the project package shall remain as stated.**

/s/ DIEGO B. SONGSONG
Secretary of Public Works

# Business

## Experts say GM bankruptcy is almost inevitable

**DETROIT** (AP)—For General Motors Corp., the task at hand is so difficult that experts say a Chapter 11 bankruptcy filing is all but inevitable.

To remake itself outside of court, GM must persuade bondholders to swap $27 billion in debt for 10 percent of its risky stock. On top of that, the automaker must work out deals with its union, announce factory closures, cut or sell brands and force hundreds of dealers out of business—all in three weeks.

"I just don't see how it's possible, given all of the pieces," said Stephen J. Lubben, a professor at Seton Hall University School of Law who specializes in bankruptcy.

GM, which has received $15.4 billion in federal aid, faces a June 1 government deadline to complete its restructuring plan. If it can't finish in time, the company will follow Detroit competitor Chrysler LLC into bankruptcy protection.

Although company executives said last week they would still prefer to restructure out of court, experts say all GM is doing now is lining up majorities of stakeholders to make its court-supervised reorganization move more quickly.

"If we need to pursue bankruptcy, we will make sure that we do it in an expeditious fashion. The exact strategies I'm not getting into today, but we'll be ready to go if that's required," Chief Executive Fritz Henderson said last week.

The threat of bankruptcy, however, may be just a negotiating ploy to pull reluctant bondholders into the equity swap deal. In Chrysler's case, some secured debtholders resisted taking roughly 30 cents on the dollar for what they were owed, but most gave in after they were identified in court documents.

Henderson, who took over in March when the government ousted Rick Wagoner, said last week there's still time to get everything done by the deadline, although he conceded it will be difficult to meet a government requirement that 90 percent of its thousands of bondholders agree to the stock swap.

## Scooters, motorcycle makers get stimulus shot

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—Sales of motorcycles and scooters shifted into high gear last year when gas prices soared. Then recession-wary consumers hit the brakes.

Now, like so many other industries, the makers of two-wheeled, fuel-efficient bikes are relying on tax breaks offered in the federal stimulus package and other incentives to get sales moving again, while easing gas consumption.

"Even before we quote the price, we tell people how much they can get off the bike," said Jeff Bosco Biafore, a salesman at the San Jose Motosport Scooter Center in Northern California.

Under the stimulus plan, the same provision that lets taxpayers deduct sales and excise taxes on the purchase of a new car or truck also applies to a motorcycle or scooter. They also can get a 10 percent federal tax credit if they buy plug-in bikes.

Before the federal incentives kicked in Feb. 17, California offered a $1,500 rebate for certain electric scooters, but there were so many applications that funding for the $1.8 million program for alternative fuel vehicles ran out.

Recently, state air quality regulators approved an additional $5 million in grants for plug-in cars and motorcycles.

With a new job that stretched her commute from 10 to 40 miles a day, freelance film and television editor Cindy Parisotto says she is considering an electric scooter to reduce her commuting costs and carbon footprint.

She's interested in an electric scooter from Vectrix Corp. that has a top speed of 62 mph and a range of at least 35 miles per charge. She would need to charge the bike everyday, but Parisotto says she figures her electricity bill will be lower than what she spends on gas.

## Upfront costs complicate Obama's health care plan

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—Costs are emerging as the biggest obstacle to President Barack Obama's ambitious plan to provide health insurance for everybody.

The upfront tab could reach $1.2 trillion to $1.5 trillion over 10 years, while expected savings from wringing waste and inefficiency from the health care system may take longer to show.

Details of the health legislation have not been written, but the broad outlines of the overhaul are known. Economists and other experts say the $634 billion that Obama's budget sets aside for health care will pay perhaps half the cost.

Obama is hoping the Senate comes up with a bipartisan compromise that would give him political cover for disagreeable decisions to raise more money, such as taxing some health insurance benefits. In the 2008 campaign, Obama went after his Republican presidential rival, Arizona Sen. John McCain, for proposing a large-scale version of that idea.

Concerns about costs could spill over in the coming week when the Senate Finance Committee holds a hearing on how to pay for coverage. Committee leaders hoping to have a bill before the full Senate this summer must first convince their own members that it won't break the bank.

"You go to a town meeting and people are talking about bailout fatigue," said Sen. Ron Wyden, D-Ore. "They like the president. They think he's a straight shooter. But they are concerned about the amount of money that is heading out the door, and the debts their kids are going to have to absorb."

### BUSINESS BRIEFS

#### Investors await retail earnings, consumer spending

**NEW YORK** (AP)—After a week when investors were reassured by the government's assessment of the banking industry and its latest reading on the job market, Wall Street's focus turns to the consumer. The coming week features first-quarter earnings figures from Wal-Mart Stores Inc., Macy's Inc. and other retailers and the Commerce Department's retail sales report for April. So far, the expectations are that the readings will help the stock market extend a two-month-old rally. The government's retail sales tally follows April sales figures issued by the retailers on Thursday. Those reports showed spending generally fell, but by a smaller amount than in the previous months. Still, the recession weighed on consumers, who concentrated their spending on necessities such as groceries and health care products.

#### Target's activist shareholder to hold town meeting

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Less than three weeks ahead of what's expected to be a heated proxy contest at Target's annual shareholders' meeting, activist shareholder William Ackman aims to strengthen his case to investors for a new slate of directors by personally introducing his roster at a town hall meeting here Monday. According to documents filed Friday with the Securities and Exchange Commission, Ackman, who runs Pershing Square Capital Management, which owns a 7.8 percent stake in the discounter, intends to "improve Target's board and consequently, help make Target a stronger, more profitable and more valuable company." Friday's filing outlined Ackman's reasons for why investors should pick his nominees and offered comparisons to the Target's incumbent nominees.

# Nation

## Power tool may have sparked Santa Barbara wildfire

**SANTA BARBARA, Calif.** (AP)—The wildfire that has scorched 13 square miles and destroyed dozens of homes in the hills above this scenic coastal city was apparently sparked by a power tool being used to clear brush, investigators said Sunday.

Fire officials said someone, or possibly a group of people, was clearing vegetation on what appeared to be private land near the trail around the time the fire erupted Tuesday.

"Any time you use any power tool, there's always a possibility, especially if the conditions are right," said Joe Waterman, the overall fire commander from the California Department of Forestry and Fire Protection.

Some Santa Barbara County residents recently received annual notices advising them they had until June 1 to clear potentially hazardous brush, county fire Capt. Glenn Fidler said. It was not immediately clear whether the blaze originated in an area targeted by such a notice.

Officials declined to comment further about the type of power tool that may have been used, or if anyone could face charges.

The fire has destroyed 77 homes, damaged 22 others and forced the evacuation of approximately 30,000 people to safer ground.

Evacuees from all but 500 homes had been allowed to return by Sunday night, as firefighters had the blaze 65 percent contained, aided by cooler, more humid weather.

Relieved to see their homes still standing, grateful residents paid tribute to firefighters by tooting car horns in their honor and posting large thank-you signs on their front lawns.

AP

The charred hulls of two Mercedes cars are seen on Sunday, May 10, 2009, after flames from a wind-driven wildfire ravaged a home along Holly Road in the Mission Canyon area of Santa Barbara, Calif.

## National Guard troops to aid flood victims in WVa

**GILBERT, W.Va.** (AP)—The National Guard is helping residents in West Virginia's southern coalfields recover from weekend flooding that destroyed at least 100 buildings, knocked out power and caused mudslides that flushed trash, debris and at least one mobile home downstream.

Gov. Joe Machin activated 300 Guard troops Sunday on top of the 30 he called up a day before when he declared a state of emergency for five counties, said Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management spokesman Robert Jelacic.

Emergency crews, residents and business owners—some covered in mud—assessed the damage in Gilbert and used shovels to clean up after downpours dumped several inches of rain Friday and Saturday. On the road leading to the town of about 400 people, a mobile home broke loose Saturday and floated a quarter-mile before it was split in half by a poplar tree.

"I will never feel safe here again anytime it rains," said resident Jo Johnson.

"It was floating down the street like someone was driving it," said her husband, Milton Johnson, who was laid off last week from Massey Energy's Superior surface mine.

Now, this.

Johnson, 56, said he was awakened about 2:15 a.m. Saturday and within an hour, the couple and his 79-year-old mother, whose trailer next door was uprooted by rushing floodwaters, were forced to seek shelter on a nearby hillside. Johnson, whose home has flood insurance, said he's lived in Gilbert his entire life and this is the first time he's been flooded.

No injuries have been reported and seven miners trapped underground because of high water were able to walk out of the Mountaineer Alma mine near Wharncliffe on Sunday morning, Jelacic said.

### ACROSS THE NATION

#### Health groups offer $2 trillion in cost savings

**WASHINGTON** (AP)—President Barack Obama's plan to provide medical insurance for all Americans took a big step toward becoming reality Sunday after leaders of the health care industry offered $2 trillion in spending reductions over 10 years to help pay for the program. Hospitals, insurance companies, drug makers and doctors planned to tell Obama on Monday they'll voluntarily slow their rate increases in coming years in a move that government economists say would create breathing room to help provide health insurance to an estimated 50 million Americans who now go without it.

#### Biden to grads: You have chance to shape history

**SYRACUSE, N.Y.** (AP)—Vice President Joe Biden told more than 3,000 college graduates that they are at a watershed moment with a chance to shape history that few generations ever encounter. He urged them during a commencement address Sunday to imagine a better world, and then get involved and help make improvements. "There is a much greater risk in accepting a situation we know we cannot sustain than in steeling our spine and embracing the challenge of change," Biden said to students from Syracuse University and the State University of New York's College of Environmental Science and Forestry.

#### Weather looks great for Monday launch to Hubble

**CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla.** (AP)—With a forecast of near-perfect weather, NASA's Hubble Space Telescope scientists and managers were euphoric as they awaited Monday's planned launch of shuttle Atlantis on the final trip to the orbiting observatory. The anticipation was all the greater given all the years of mission delays. "To be within one day of it is remarkable, unbelievable and I have to persuade myself I'm not dreaming," senior project scientist David Leckrone said Sunday. "But I walk outside and I see that beautiful bird on the pad (Atlantis) and I see the gorgeous weather, and we're going to get off tomorrow and it's going to go splendidly. I just feel it."

# Asia

## Concerns white phosphorus used in Afghan battle

**KABUL** (AP)—Doctors voiced concern over "unusual" burns on Afghan villagers wounded in an already controversial U.S.-Taliban battle, and the country's top human rights groups said Sunday it is investigating the possibility white phosphorus was used.

The American military denied using the incendiary in the battle in Farah province—which President Hamid Karzai has said killed 125 to 130 civilians—but left open the possibility that Taliban militants did. The U.S. says Taliban fighters have used white phosphorus, a spontaneously flammable material that leaves severe chemical burns on flesh, at least four times the last two years.

Using white phosphorus to illuminate a target or create smoke is considered legitimate under international law, but rights groups say its use over populated areas can indiscriminately burn civilians and constitutes a war crime.

AP

Haji Barkat Ullah speaks with her daugther Frishta 7, who was wounded in coalition airstrike on Monday night in Bala Baluk district of Farah province recovers in a hospital in Herat, Afghanistan, Saturday, May 9, 2009.

Afghan doctors told The Associated Press they have treated at least 14 patients with severe burns the doctors have never seen before. The villagers were wounded during last Monday's battle in Farah province.

Allegations that white phosphorus or another chemical may have been used threatens to deepen the controversy over what Afghan officials say could be the worst case of civilian deaths since the 2001 U.S. invasion that ousted the Taliban regime.

## Curfew's lift lets more flee Pakistani valley

**MINGORA, Pakistan** (AP)—Tens of thousands of civilians, many on foot or donkey-led carts, took advantage of a lifted curfew to flee Pakistan's embattled Swat Valley on Sunday, while the army said it had killed 400 to 500 militants in its battle against the Taliban.

The hemorrhaging of residents from a scenic valley that once attracted hordes of tourists threatened to greatly exacerbate an existing internal refugee crisis for a nuclear-armed nation already facing economic, political and other woes.

The army offensive has garnered praise from the U.S., which wants Pakistan to root out havens on its soil where Taliban militants can plan attacks on American and NATO forces across the border in Afghanistan. In an interview aired Sunday, Pakistan's president urged international support for the fight and insisted the army had enough troops in the northwest to handle the threat.

As they left Swat's main town of Mingora, some residents cursed the situation and condemned the Taliban, while others blamed Pakistani leaders for bowing to the West. "Show our picture to your master America and get money from him," some taunted.

## Malaysia racial ties fragile 40 years after riots

**KUALA LUMPUR, Malaysia** (AP)—The last time Lee Hung Poh walked unassisted was 40 years ago, before a bullet fired in the heat of Malaysia's worst race riots sliced through her spine and shattered her future.

Neither the 57-year-old Lee nor her country has ever completely recovered.

To be sure, Malaysia, a Southeast Asian nation of 27 million people, has been remarkably stable since the weeklong mayhem that began May 13, 1969. But as the country marks the 40th anniversary of the riots, its uneasy racial detente is coming under stress.

Ethnic Chinese and Indians, the two largest minorities, have become more vocal in demanding racial equality in part because of growing economic hardships, and Indians staged unprecedented public protests in November 2007. Mindful of the mounting disenchantment, a new prime minister is proposing a partial rollback of a main legacy of the riots, an affirmative action program for the majority Malays.

If change goes smoothly, it may be for the better. As Malaysians have grown wealthier and better educated, they have demanded a more open discussion of race, and the government has acquiesced to a degree.

### ASIAN BRIEFS

#### UN deplores killing of Sri Lanka civilians

**COLOMBO, Sri Lanka** (AP)—The killing of hundreds of ethnic Tamil civilians in a weekend artillery barrage in Sri Lanka's northern war zone was the "bloodbath" that the international community had long feared would take place, the U.N. said Monday. The artillery attack killed at least 378 civilians and wounded more than a thousand more, according to a government health official inside rebel-controlled territory in the north. A rebel-linked Web site blamed the hours-long attack on the government, while the military accused the beleaguered Tamil Tigers of briefly shelling their own territory to gain international sympathy and force a cease-fire. The attack marked the bloodiest assault on ethnic Tamil civilians since the civil war flared again more than three years ago. Health officials said a hospital in the war zone was overwhelmed by casualties, and the death toll was expected to rise.

#### Indonesian president's party wins elections

**JAKARTA, Indonesia** (AP)—The secular party of Indonesia's president tripled its share of the vote in parliamentary elections as support for religious parties nose-dived in the world's largest Muslim-majority country. After years of unpopular laws pushed through by religious hard-liners, regulating women's dress and banning everything from smoking to yoga, even devout Muslims in Indonesia say they have had enough with religion in politics. The election victory by the party of President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono is expected to help him win a second term when a presidential vote is held in July. The former army general who became the country's first democratically elected leader in 2004. Support for the main Islamist parties in last month's parliamentary polls declined from 39 percent five years ago to just 24 percent, largely because modern, urban voters view them as intolerant.

# World

## With swine flu, we're all in this together

**MEXICO CITY** (AP)—On the western edge of Mexico's capital, 10 new luxury apartment towers promise an antiseptically modern lifestyle with spas, private playgrounds and an exclusive shopping center. Blocks away, a world-class private hospital has opened.

But there's no escaping the view from these $1.5 million apartments: Just across a ravine is a slum where maids and construction workers make do in crowded, humid homes of raw concrete and spotty drinking water. For them, getting sick means medicating themselves at a discount pharmacy, or waiting for hours in an overcrowded public hospital.

Wealthy Mexicans aren't alone in trying—and failing—to distance themselves from deprivation and disease. People all over the world want to protect their families from the problems of the less fortunate.

But if there's anything we've learned from the swine flu epidemic, it is this: the virus doesn't discriminate.

"We're all in this together," President Barack Obama said as he urged public health agencies to reach all corners of America. "When one person gets sick, it has the potential of making us all sick."

The outbreak might not have become an epidemic if Mexico's first swine flu victims had been identified and treated quickly. We now know that for most, the virus causes only mild symptoms, and that nearly all of those who become quite sick can recover if they get proper treatment within 48 hours.

## Pope praises Mideast Christians for persevering

**AMMAN, Jordan** (AP)—Pope Benedict XVI praised Sunday the courage of Middle East Christians who cling to their faith despite war and adversity, addressing a crowd of 20,000 who filled a sports stadium where he celebrated the first open-air Mass of his Holy Land pilgrimage.

For years, the church has been alarmed by the declining presence of Christians in the Holy Land and throughout the Middle East, ancient communities driven out by conflict and poverty.

"The Catholic community here is deeply touched by the difficulties and uncertainties which affect the people of the Middle East," Benedict said, speaking in English at the Mass. "May you never forget the great dignity which derives from your Christian heritage, or fail to sense the loving solidarity of all your brothers and sisters in the church throughout the world."

He said fidelity to the church's mission in the Middle East "demands of each of you a particular kind of courage" that requires building ties with people of other religions and cultures.

The pope was welcomed at the stadium in Arabic by the Latin rite patriarch of Jerusalem, Archbishop Fouad Twal, who recalled that Jordan has taken in more than 1 million Iraqi refugees since the start of the war, some 40,000 of them Christians.

## Lawyer defends jailed US reporter at Iran court

**TEHRAN, Iran** (AP)—A lawyer for a jailed American journalist in Iran said Sunday he was optimistic that an appeals court will reduce her eight-year prison sentence for allegedly spying for the United States.

Roxana Saberi's lawyer talked to reporters after his 32-year-old client's five-hour closed-door appeals hearing. He said he was allowed to defend Saberi and expects the court will make its ruling in the coming days.

"I am hopeful and optimistic that there will be a remarkable change to her verdict," Abdolsamad Khorramshahi said outside the courthouse. "My colleague and I were allowed to defend our client in a favorable atmosphere. Our client also had enough time to defend herself."

Saberi, who grew up in Fargo, North Dakota, was convicted last month after a closed-door hearing that her father said lasted only 15 minutes and her lawyer was not given time to defend her.

The case has caused tensions between the U.S. and Iran at a time when President Barack Obama has said he wants to engage America's longtime adversary. Washington has called the charges against Saberi baseless and demanded she be freed.

### WORLD BRIEFS

#### Police arrest suspected crime boss in south Italy

**ROME** (AP)—Police say they arrested a fugitive crime boss who they found holed up in a secret room of his brother's house in the southern Italian region of Calabria. Officials of the Carabinieri paramilitary police force in Reggio Calabria say Salvatore Coluccio has been a fugitive since 2005. They say Coluccio tried to elude capture on Sunday by slipping through a closet to the secret room in the house in the town of Marina Gioiosa Ionica. Police say the house belongs to his brother Giuseppe Coluccio, who was arrested a year ago in Canada. Investigators allege the brothers are involved in international drug trafficking run by the 'ndrangheta organized crime syndicate.

#### Weekend fighting in Somali capital leaves 35 dead

**MOGADISHU, Somalia** (AP)—Mortars and machine-gun fire rocked the Somali capital on Sunday, leveling homes and a mosque in renewed violence that has killed at least 35 people over the weekend as pro-government Islamist fighters clash with gunmen who want to topple the Western-backed government, officials said. It was some of the worst fighting in weeks in one of the most violent cities in the world, with both sides pounding Mogadishu with mortars and machine-gunfire. Residents were streaming out of the city seeking safety. Ali Mohamed, a 20-year-old Mogadishu resident, said he was losing all hope for his nation, which has been in chaos since the 1991 ouster of dictator Mohamed Siad Barre. Rival clans then turned on each other. And insurgents, since late 2006, have been trying to topple the weak government. The lawlessness also has allowed piracy to explode off the coast.

#### Iceland's government moves closer to joining EU

**REYKJAVIK, Iceland** (AP)—Iceland's new government said Sunday it will ask parliament to vote on whether the recession-hit country should start membership talks with the European Union. Prime Minister Johanna Sigurdardottir said a bill authorizing accession talks would be introduced when Iceland's parliament, the Althingi, resumes sitting on Friday. "In the coming weeks the demand of the people of Iceland will be to find out what the EU has to offer to us," Sigurdardottir said. "It would not be fair for the Althingi to prevent that." Sigurdardottir and Finance Minister Steingrimur J. Sigfusson also introduced their new Cabinet, two weeks after their two party coalition won elections.

# Overdrive

## Where rental fleets and fads hit a wall

BY WARREN BROWN
THE WASHINGTON POST

**WARREN, Mich.**—Should it survive its current flirtation with bankruptcy, I offer this short wish list for Chrysler:

■ Stop selling base cars to rental fleets.

■ Start scrapping models whose initial fad-based appeal has faded.

I offer these suggestions after two miserable days in a base 2009 Chrysler PT Cruiser obtained from the Avis car rental company. The compact, front-wheel-drive family wagon I once hailed as a delightful styling exercise turned out to be a stinker.

It was a car of relatively low mileage, barely 30,000 accumulated miles, in good mechanical condition. But it was a base model equipped with Chrysler's anemic 2.4-liter, 150-horsepower, in-line four-cylinder engine.

Because U.S. rental car companies correctly assume that most Americans cannot operate manual transmissions, the subject automobile's engine was mated to an optional four-speed automatic transmission instead of the standard five-speed manual gearbox, which is better suited for the base PT Cruiser.

The combination of a little engine and bargain-basement automatic transmission didn't work. The PT Cruiser became a rolling obstacle on local expressways. Motorists approaching me from the rear automatically changed lanes when they saw what was in front of them. It was humiliating.

And the humiliation was deserved.

Any car certified for highway use should be capable of reaching a speed of 70 mph, the legal posted speed of several expressways in this region, with relative ease. My ill-equipped PT Cruiser, a car bought by a rental company precisely because it could be obtained at the lowest possible wholesale price and rented out at maximum profit, just couldn't cut it.

THE WASHINGTON POST

More bad news for Chrysler: Though the upscale Limited version of the 2009 PT Cruiser, pictured, drives well, any Cruiser below that level is a miserable ride.

The thing wheezed, whined and struggled at speeds approaching 60 mph. Had I never before driven a Chrysler product, had I known nothing at all about Chrysler, this would have been my introduction—one that would have left me not the least bit inclined to try, buy or drive a Chrysler product again.

That's too bad, because Chrysler does make good cars and, indeed, even turns out PT Cruiser models—I'm thinking the upscale Limited version—that are better than the car I drove.

It baffles me that Chrysler, GM and Ford—all of whom have made similar errors—don't seem to understand that consumers often form their first product impressions via rented cars. That being the case, it would make more sense for an automobile manufacturer to display the best samples of its cars in the rental market, even if that means selling them to rental car companies at a loss.

It's marketing. It's better to pay marketing costs to build and support a positive image than it is to waste hundreds of millions of dollars, often in the form of profit-eroding rebates, trying to correct an image gone wrong.

So, again: Chrysler, stop the self-defeating insanity of spending money to develop new products only to display the worst examples of those models where consumers will meet them first—in rental fleets.

It just doesn't make sense. Nor does it make sense to bore consumers with a styling exercise that has long lost its appeal.

The retro, bread-wagon styling of the PT Cruiser hit a nostalgic chord when it was introduced eight years ago. But what was cute then seems silly and laughable now, the moral equivalent of a pet rock with an engine and four wheels. It's gone from turning heads to shaking them.

Like it or not, the automobile industry has much in common with the fashion-crazed clothing industry. It doesn't pay to push mini skirts when something longer is in vogue.

### NUTS & BOLTS

BY WARREN BROWN
THE WASHINGTON POST

#### COMPLAINTS

The PT Cruiser, lovable at inception, has run its course. It's time for Chrysler to pull this one from the lineup.

#### RIDE, ACCELERATION AND HANDLING

The base model gets marginal marks in all three categories. The Limited model, with the turbocharged, 180-horsepower version of the 2.4-liter engine, gets better marks all around.

#### HEAD-TURNING QUOTIENT

The heads that turned in admiration when the PT Cruiser was introduced eight years ago now shake in derision in response to the car today. Fads fade. Fashions change.

#### BODY STYLE/LAYOUT

The PT Cruiser is a compact front-engine, front-wheel-drive family wagon with four side doors and a rear hatch.

#### ENGINE/TRANSMISSION

The base 2.4-liter, inline four-cylinder engine develops 160 horsepower and 165 pound-feet of torque. It is mated to a standard five-speed manual transmission. A four-speed automatic is optional, but is not recommended by this column for application in the base car. A turbocharged version of the 2.4-liter engine develops 180 horsepower and 210 pound-feet of torque.

#### CAPACITIES

There are seats for five people. Maximum cargo capacity with rear seats folded is 63 cubic feet. With rear seats folded, it's 21.6 cubic feet. Fuel capacity is 15 gallons of recommended regular unleaded gasoline.

#### MILEAGE

Disappointing for a compact four-cylinder vehicle, it gets 19 miles per gallon in the city and 24 miles per gallon on the highway with automatic transmission. The manual version offers slightly better mileage.

#### SAFETY

Standard equipment includes side-mounted air bags. Too much else—electronic stability is an example—is offered as optional equipment, or is unavailable in a segment where rivals provide more. The PT Cruiser, for example, still runs with front disc brakes and rear drums in a market where rivals routinely provide four-wheel disc brakes with standard antilock protection.

#### PRICING

Base prices on the 2009 PT Cruiser run $18,000 to $24,510. Prices are sourced from Chrysler, Edmunds.com and Cars.com, an affiliate of The Washington Post.

#### PURSE-STRINGS NOTE

You can bargain on the PT Cruiser, which is surrounded by worthy competitors including the Chevrolet HHR, Honda Element, Hyundai Elantra Touring and Kia Soul.

## Reborn Fiat shakes up Italian stereotype

**MILAN** (AP)—In a perfect world, so the joke goes, the Germans are the mechanics, the Swiss are the timekeepers and the Italians are the lovers.

With Fiat snapping up a 20 percent stake in Chrysler and bidding for General Motor Corp.'s European car-making business, it seems the Italian will now be the guy who makes the cars.

Italian Premier Silvio Berlusconi says Fiat's dealmaking is "a dream ... for all Italians." But few Americans have given Fiat much thought since at least the 1980s, when the Italian automaker last did business in North America before pulling up stakes and returning to Italy, reputation for quality in tatters, the brunt of another old joke that Fiat stood for Fix It Again, Tony.

In his past five years as CEO, 56-year-old Sergio Marchionne has engineered a stunning comeback for Fiat. The year after taking over, he posted Fiat's first net profit in five years, streamlined management, burnished the Fiat brand with the award-winning update of the much-loved Fiat 500 and entered a series of strategic alliances to share costs and enter new markets. He will also head Chrysler when it emerges from bankruptcy.

AP

In this Thursday, May 7, 2009 photo, Fiat cars are parked in the courtyard of a retailer in Milan, Italy.

Analysts warn, however, that the sexy, appealing 500—Cinquecento in Italian and "Luigi" in the cartoon movie "Cars"—won't be enough to get Chrysler back on its feet even if it captures the hearts of America's city drivers. And more than one international hookup has gone sour on cultural differences, as the failed marriage of Germany's Daimler and Chrysler testifies.

"I think the proof is in the pudding," said Howard Wheeldon, a senior strategist at BGC Partners. "Americans have no idea who Marchionne is. .. The first thing Marchionne and his team need to do is to command respect that is going to be difficult. It has been doing a lot better in recent times, but Fiat's history is awful."

Look no further than Fiat's 20-year presence in the U.S. The costs of handling warranty repairs to Fiat's Strada, a mid-size four-door sedan launched in 1974, wiped out any profits on its sale, a Fiat executive confided to Giuseppe Volpato, who has written three books on Fiat.

There were successes, like the Fiat 124 Spider, a convertible two-seater that sold well for over a decade but remained a niche product.

Inauspiciously, Fiat stopped exporting even profitable cars to the U.S. in the early 1980s. The reasons: It lacked the dealer network to properly service its cars, it was having trouble meeting environmental standards and sales were slipping under pressure to Japanese competition, said Volpato, a professor at the Ca' Foscari University of Venice.

Returning to America confronts Marchionne with one of the world's toughest and most varied markets.

A citizen of Italy and Canada, Marchionne has focused on bringing out the best of Fiat's Italian DNA, that sense of style that made the original Cinquecento a raging success.

# Life & Style

## CNN's Gupta turns down Obama, on top of flu story

**NEW YORK** (AP)— "Don't drop me," CNN's Dr. Sanjay Gupta said as he hopped on the back of a motorcycle for a ride down a dusty Mexican street. He was looking for the boy believed to be the first person diagnosed with swine flu, armed with a picture on his Blackberry.

Gupta would not have been in La Gloria, Mexico, if he had accepted the Obama administration's overture to be U.S. surgeon general. You get the feeling he would have missed it.

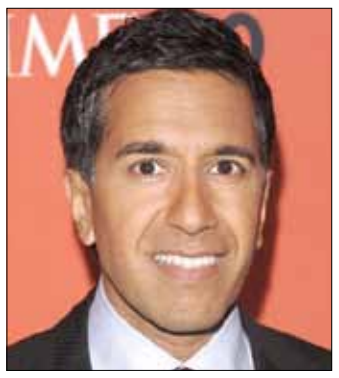
His aggressive spirit covering the outbreak stood out during the brief period that the story went into overdrive, including his successful search for 5-year-old Edgar Hernandez near a pig farm in La Gloria and the somewhat goofy "undercover" report from a Mexican hospital where swine flu victims were kept behind closed doors.

He acknowledged some apprehension about going to Mexico, not wanting to catch the disease on which he was reporting.

"As a medical reporter, in some ways these are the hardest stories to cover," Gupta said. "Bird flu, that was different. That had a 70 percent fatality rate—it just wasn't spreading. This is a disease that seems to be spreading, but doesn't seem to have a high fatality rate. Everyone is worried about a disease that has both characteristics."

By his second full day in Mexico, Gupta said he sensed the concern easing.

The Mexico trip increased Gupta's celebrity. The only TV network medical correspondent named one of People magazine's "sexiest men alive" doubled his Twitter following to 20,000 people while he was there.


Gupta

Gupta, who performs surgery at Grady Memorial Hospital in Atlanta, said he learned a valuable lesson early in his CNN career from Dr. Tim Johnson, veteran ABC News medical correspondent. Johnson told him to talk to the camera as if it were a patient.

Gupta, 39 and a White House fellow in the Clinton administration, started at CNN in 2001 believing his main role would be to report on health policy. He didn't know if he'd ever be on camera, but that changed the day a study was released showing a link between the Vietnam War-era chemical Agent Orange and blood disease. Gupta was asked to go on the air and talk about it.

"The culture (of journalism) is totally different," he said. "For one thing, I didn't have any clothes. I'd worn scrubs my whole life. I came to CNN with one suit and two ties."

ABC's Johnson said it seems Gupta has taken his advice. "I feel like a doctor who happens to be on TV, even though that's what I do now full time," he said. "I think he has that quality, too. To me, it helps communicate with the audience because you're not preaching at them, you're teaching at them."

Once he became comfortable with the camera, Gupta carved out a different role. While Johnson is a commentator, Gupta frequently goes to the scene of stories reporting on health issues. He's been to Iraq (where he performed emergency brain surgery on a soldier), and to areas damaged by the tsunami and Hurricane Katrina.

That has caused some controversy, as when he battled filmmaker Michael Moore after questioning claims in "Sicko." His enthusiasm in finding Hernandez, however, made for a memorable story. Gupta used his medical credentials to ask pertinent questions and get into the hospital to illustrate how patients were quarantined.

Gupta was called by Obama's transition team last fall about the surgeon general's job, and took nearly two months to weighing the possibilities. For one thing, becoming surgeon general would have effectively ended his career as a surgeon.

Gupta performs surgery at least once a week and would be only 43 if he completed a term as surgeon general. He didn't want to stop practicing that young. His wife was pregnant at the time (their daughter was born six weeks ago) and he thought he'd regret being a commuter dad with three young children.

"It was a hard decision, and until I actually said it publicly, I still wasn't 100 percent sure," he said. "When I said it publicly, I felt good about it, and sometimes that's the way you know."

## Greek puppet master Evgenios Spatharis dies at 85

**ATHENS, Greece** (AP)—Evgenios Spatharis, a Greek master of shadow puppet theater, has died days after sustaining injuries in a fall, a state news agency reported Sunday. He was 85.

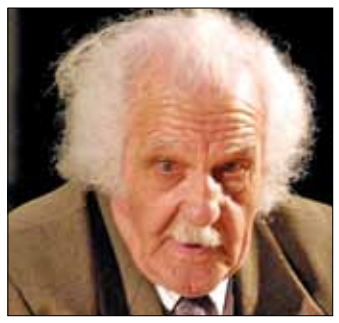
Spatharis died Saturday at an Athens hospital, where he was being treated after falling from a staircase Wednesday while he was on his way to a performance. No details have been given about the type of injuries he suffered.

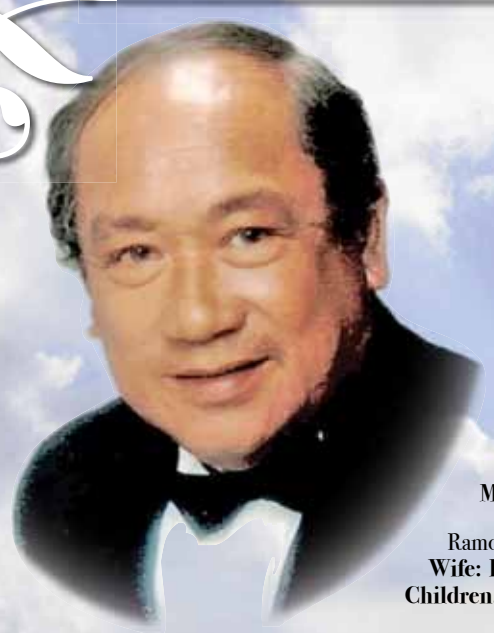
He was well-known throughout Greece for his puppet theater stories revolving around the hunchbacked character "Karagiozi," who came to represent the virtues and vices of the average Greek. Cunning and rebellious against authority, Karagiozi was often shown as a liar and petty thief who worms his way out of difficult situations.

The stories, deeply satirical, featured a varying cast of characters whose accents and mannerisms poked fun at various people in Greek society. Authority figures were represented by a Turkish pasha.

Spatharis said recently that, while touring a western Greek island, he was warned not to present a local character or he would be beaten up. "I played the character in the end, and they applauded me," he told the Tachydromos magazine in an interview published earlier this month.

Shadow theater, now a dying art form in Greece, is thought to be from China or India and arrived in Greece when it was part of the Ottoman Empire from the mid-15th century until the late 1820s. For decades after Greece won independence in 1829, shadow theater was the only organized form of public entertainment.


Spatharis

# Death and Funeral Announcement

## RAMON TYDINGCO FEJERAN

*"Bo"; "Ta Bo"; or "Ramon Adu"*

**Born: September 18, 1943, of Dandan, Saipan (former resident of Mangilao, Guam)**
**Peacefully joined his Creator on May 6, 2009, at the age of 65.**

**In his new life, Ramon now joins his**
**Parents:** Jose Cruz Fejeran & Maria Tydingco Fejeran
**Mother-in-Law:** Isabel Anderson Iglesias Calvo

**Sister & Brother-in-Law:** Natividad Tydingco Fejeran & Zacarias Muna Tudela
**Brother & Sister-in-Law:** Isidro Tydingco Fejeran & Rosa Maliti Fejeran
**Brothers-in-Law:** Donald Iglesias Calvo & Roderick Iglesias Calvo

Ramon's loving memory will forever be treasured by his wife, children, and other members of his family:
**Wife: Edith Calvo Fejeran**
**Children, In-Laws and Grandchildren: Gerard Calvo** & Lydia Perez Calvo (Fejeran) (Jacilyn Terese), **Jason Paul Calvo Fejeran** & Josephine Abad Fejeran (Janessa Renae & Jalene Audrey Fejeran; Richard; & Jasmin), **Ryan Thomas Calvo Fejeran** & Joann Delin Fejeran (Jay Gerald & Shayanne Nicole Amber), Ft. Worth, TX. **Eric Vohn Calvo Fejeran** & April Sablan Tedtaotao (Evie Marie, Avin Michael & Alexa Marie), **Brandon Keith Calvo Fejeran**

**His Brothers and Sisters-in-Law: Moses T.** & Ana Fejeran; **Benigno T.** & Amalia **Fejeran**; **Felipe T.** & Carmen A. **Fejeran**; Sophia M. Fejeran; Maria T. Fejeran; & Marlene Fejeran

**His Father-in-Law: Jacinto Blas Calvo, Chalan Pago, Guam**

**His Brothers-in-Law & Sisters-in-Law:** Anthony I. Calvo; Michael I. & Hope+ Calvo; Jeannette C. & Juan Blas; Judith C. & William Roy Maahs; Sharon C. & Edward Rodriguez; Maria Salas Calvo & Mary Artero Calvo

**Caretakers: Luz B.** & Romel **Alcausin; Ofelia Mendoza**

**God Children: Patrici o Fejeran Tudela; Esther Fejeran Sound; Mark Seman Fejeran**

He will also be missed by his numerous cousins, nieces, nephews, other relatives and friends.

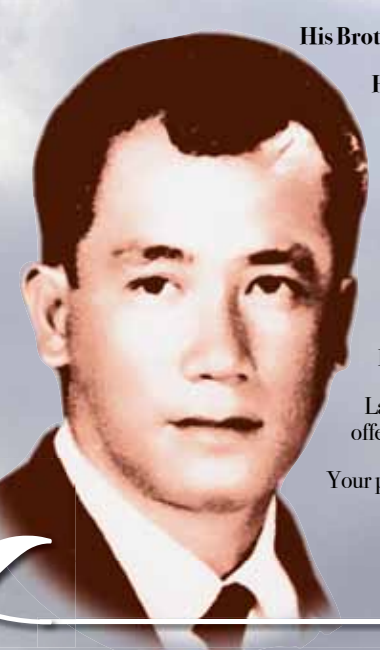
Mass for Ramon Tydingco Fejeran is being offered nightly at 6:00 p.m. at San Vicente Church followed by the Holy Rosary.

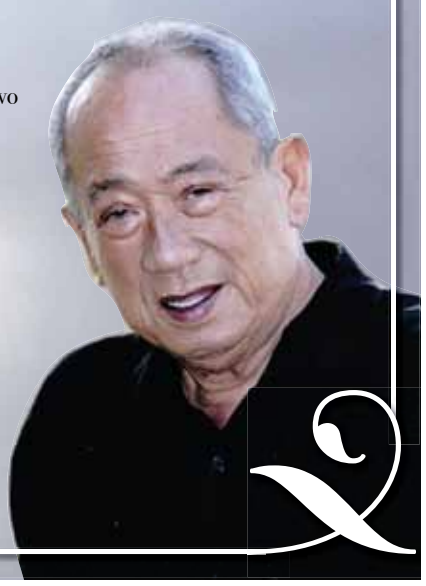
Last Respects may be paid at San Vicente Church on Thursday, May 14, 2009, at 7:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. Mass of Christian Burial will be offered at 11:00 a.m. Interment services will follow at Sanctuario Pax Memorial Gardens in Kagman, Saipan.

Your prayers, thoughts and presence are humbly and profoundly appreciated.

Thank and Si Yu'us Ma'ase

**Edith Calvo Fejeran, Children & Family**





# 'Star Trek' has galactic $76.5M opening weekend

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—"Star Trek" beamed itself up to the top of the box office, earning $76.5 million in its opening weekend.

Paramount Pictures had estimated that the movie would make about $50 million for the weekend, but figured that strong reviews helped carry it to the bigger opening.

Director J.J. Abrams' reboot of the beloved sci-fi franchise made $72.5 million from Friday through Sunday, plus $4 million just in pre-midnight screenings Thursday, the studio said Saturday. That cumulative figure includes a record $8.2 million in IMAX showings.

"Star Trek," which reveals the back stories of Capt. Kirk, Mr. Spock and the rest of the crew of the U.S.S. Enterprise, is an unusual blockbuster that pleased critics, too, receiving 96 percent positive reviews on the Rotten Tomatoes Web site.

1. "**Star Trek,**" $72.5 million.
2. "**X-Men Origins: Wolverine**," $27 million.
3. "**Ghosts of Girlfriends Past**," $10.45 million.
4. "**Obsessed**," $6.6 million.
5. "**17 Again**," $4.4 million.
6. "**Next Day Air,**" $4 million.
7. "**The Soloist**," $3.6 million.
8. "**Monsters vs. Aliens**," $3.4 million.
9. "**Earth**," $2.5 million.
10. "**Hannah Montana: The Movie**," $2.4 million.

"Last year 'The Dark Knight' and 'Iron Man' both were embraced by critics as incredible filmmaking as well as big action-adventure movies. This one has been even better reviewed," said Paramount vice chairman Rob Moore. "You look at the level of critical response and the audience reaction, we definitely feel like the movie is set to play into Memorial Day and into the summer."

Moore said he expected the movie, which had a $140 million budget, should gross over $200 million total this summer, even with competition like "Terminator: Salvation" coming on May 21 and "Harry Potter and the Half-Blood Prince" arriving in theaters July 15.

Abrams got it right, he said, by appealing to both hardcore "Star Trek" fans as well as moviegoers who may not have been familiar with the 1960s television series and the many movies and TV spin-offs it spawned. It stars Chris Pine as Kirk and Zachary Quinto as Spock, and features an appearance by Leonard Nimoy as an older version of the half-Vulcan, half-human Spock.

"It just shows you how talented he is and what a great movie he made," Moore said.

AP

In this film publicity image released by Paramount Pictures, from left, Anton Yelchin as Chekov, Chris Pine as James T. Kirk, Simon Pegg as Scotty, Karl Urban as Bones, John Cho as Sulu and Zoe Saldana as Ohura are shown in a scene from, "Star Trek."

"Star Trek" also beat the $6.3 million record "The Dark Knight" set in its opening weekend on IMAX screens last year.

"The DNA of this movie and the DNA of the `Star Trek' franchise work perfectly together and are very much a complement to what IMAX has accomplished," said Greg Foster, chairman and president of IMAX Filmed Entertainment. "IMAX was a company that had a sort of older-school, older-fashioned approach to things and we hipped it up and reinvented ourselves, if you will. That's precisely what J.J. Abrams and Paramount did with 'Star Trek.'"

The fact that the "Star Trek" haul improved from $26.8 million on Friday to $27.4 million on Saturday is a good sign, said Paul Dergarabedian, box-office analyst for Hollywood.com.

"Sometimes you will see a movie drop big-time," Dergarabedian said. "What this 'Star Trek' is going to have is legs, a rare commodity in this world where every week there's a new blockbuster."

As expected, last week's top film, "X-Men Origins: Wolverine," came in at No. 2 with $27 million. The prequel to the "X-Men" franchise, starring Hugh Jackman as the mutant who slices and dices his enemies with his metal claws, has made nearly $129.6 million in two weeks.

"It's the same weekend drop as ('X-Men: The Last Stand'), the last one. That tends to be what fan-based movies do," said Chris Aronson, senior vice president of domestic distribution for 20th Century Fox. "To have $130 million in the first 10 days is sensational. We think we withstood the attack of 'Star Trek,' if you will, and will settle into a long, successful run."

The week's other new wide release, the stoner comedy "Next Day Air," came in at sixth place with $4 million.

Estimated ticket sales for Friday through Sunday at U.S. and Canadian theaters, according to Hollywood.com. Final figures will be released Monday.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Star Trek

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:00 | 7:00 | 9:45 |
| Saturday | 1:00 | 4:00 | 7:00 | 9:45 |
| Sunday | 1:00 | 4:00 | 7:00 | |
| Mon thru Thurs | | 4:00 | 7:00 | |

Chris Pine, Winona Ryder
Sci-Fi, Adaptation • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
The story of a young crew's maiden voyage onboard the most advanced starship ever created: the U.S.S. Enterprise. On a journey filled with cosmic peril, the new recruits must find a way to stop an evil being whose mission of vengeance threatens all of mankind. The fate of the galaxy rests in the hands of bitter rivals. One, James T. Kirk, is a delinquent, thrill-seeking Iowa farm boy.

T-2 (Tenement 2)

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:25 | 7:20 | 9:50 |
| Saturday | 1:30 | 4:25 | 7:20 | 9:50 |
| Sunday | 1:30 | 4:25 | 7:20 | |
| Mon thru Thurs | | 4:25 | 7:20 | |

Maricel Soriano, Mika Dela Cruz
Action, Adventure • Rated NR

Synopsis
T2 is a story of Clair, a woman whose pain from his husband's breakup with her led her to Angeli, an orphan whom she is supposed to bring to the latter's mother who happened to be an engkanto.

X-Men Origins:Wolverine

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:05 | 7:10 | 9:35 |
| Saturday | 1:05 | 4:05 | 7:10 | 9:35 |
| Sunday | 1:05 | 4:05 | 7:10 | |
| Mon thru Thurs | | 4:05 | 7:10 | |

Hugh Jackman, Liev Schreiber
Action, Adventure • Rated PG 13

Synopsis
X-Men Origins: Wolverine, the first chapter in the X-Men saga, unites Wolverine with several other legends of the X-Men Universe, in an epic revolution that pits the mutants against powerful forces determined to eliminate them.

X-Men Origins:Wolverine

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:30 | 7:25 | 9:55 |
| Saturday | 1:25 | 4:30 | 7:25 | 9:55 |
| Sunday | 1:25 | 4:30 | 7:25 | |
| Mon thru Thurs | | 4:30 | 7:25 | |

Hugh Jackman, Liev Schreiber
Action, Adventure • Rated PG 13

Ghost of Girlfriends Past

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:10 | 7:15 | 9:40 |
| Saturday | 1:15 | 4:10 | 7:15 | 9:40 |
| Sunday | 1:15 | 4:10 | 7:15 | |
| Mon thru Thurs | | 4:10 | 7:15 | |

Matthew McConaughhey, Jennifer Garner
Romantic, Comedy • Rated PG 13

Fighting

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:15 | 7:30 | 10:00 |
| Saturday | 1:10 | 4:15 | 7:30 | 10:00 |
| Sunday | 1:10 | 4:15 | 7:30 | |
| Mon thru Thurs | | 4:15 | 7:30 | |

Channing Tatum, Terrence Howard
Urban, Crime • Rated PG 13

17 Again

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Friday | | 4:20 | 7:05 | 9:30 |
| Saturday | 1:20 | 4:20 | 7:05 | 9:30 |
| Sunday | 1:20 | 4:20 | 7:05 | |
| Mon thru Thurs | | 4:20 | 7:05 | |

Zac Efron, Leslie Mann
Fantasy, Comedy • Rated PG 13

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# Winfrey collects honorary degree, speaks at Duke

**DURHAM, N.C.** (AP)—Oprah Winfrey talked about courage, making wise choices and helping others during a commencement address Sunday at Duke University, which gave her an honorary degree.

During her 25-minute speech beneath overcast skies, the talk show host told the 4,400 graduates and their guests that "one of the best ways to enhance your own life is to enhance somebody else's" and to "stand proudly in your own shoes while you help others stand in theirs."

"How can I help somebody else move to higher ground? That is success. That's it. That's why we're all alive," she said.

She also emphasized the need to make wise choices daily, saying, "Each of us has to stand in our own shoes. Will you stand in them in humility and compassion and courage? Every day will give you a chance to make that choice."

AP

Oprah Winfrey, smiles at Duke president Richard Brodhead, after receiving her honorary degree from Duke University during graduation exercises at Duke University on Sunday, May 10, 2009 in Durham, N.C.

Duke President Richard H. Brodhead presented Winfrey with an honorary doctor of humane letters degree.

She also had a personal connection with the 2009 class at the Durham, N.C., school. Her godson, William Bumpus, son of her well-known friend, Gayle King, was among the graduates.

"Will never wants people to know he knows me," Winfrey joked. "I'm like his crazy aunt that they let out at commencements."

# Leno takes comedy show to jobless Ohio residents

**WILMINGTON, Ohio** (AP)—In a region stung by layoffs and the pullout of a major employer, comedian Jay Leno was good for a few laughs.

The host of "The Tonight Show" put on a free stand-up performance Sunday for 4,000 people as part of his "Comedy Stimulus" tour.

Leno

"I don't think Jay Leno can do anything about our local economy or the situation here, but at least he empathizes with us," said John Porter, of Wilmington. "He realizes there is something big going on here and it could get a lot bigger."

Wilmington, a city of about 12,000 residents, has drawn national attention as a vivid example of the economic struggles of small U.S. communities during the recession. The main presidential candidates discussed its plight last year.

About 8,000 workers were employed at the Wilmington Air Park a year ago when delivery company DHL Express announced it was pulling out, and about 3,500 remain. Wilmington Mayor David Raizk (pronounced RESK) says at least half of them will lose their jobs when DHL leaves this summer.

# Heartbreaking finish to CBS' 'Amazing Race'

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Some quick thinking at the end won $1 million for a brother-sister team of Harvard-educated lawyers on the CBS game of "Amazing Race."

But it was a heartbreaking finish for the competition's first deaf contestant.

The winner, Victor Jih, 35, and his sister Tammy, 26, explored a sometimes contentious relationship during their journey. The 14th edition of the game concluded in Maui, Hawaii, and was televised Sunday.

"I just tried to enjoy the race for what it was and just be true to my emotions, the highs and lows," Victor Jih said after the victory. They're both practicing lawyers in California.

Three teams traveled from Beijing to Hawaii for the game's final set of competitions, which involved preparing pigs for luaus and racing on personal watercrafts to find clues floating on the water.

Luke Adams, 22, just graduated as the valedictorian of the Colorado School for the Deaf and the Blind, and raced with his mother Margie, 50. They were in the lead heading into the last competition, which involved picking out surfboards with insignias representing every leg of their trip. Luke started fast but couldn't get the last one right.

As he was frustrated, Victor Jih completed his task and headed into a taxi for the finish line. So did the third team, two former NFL cheerleaders who were trying to be the first all-female team to win the race. Cara Rosenthal, 26, of Boca Raton, Fla. and pal Jaime Edmondson, 29, of Fort Lauderdale finished second, hampered at the end by a clueless cab driver.

Margie Adams tried to console her son during the final cab ride to the finish line after 40,000 miles.

"I'm very lucky to have you as my mom," Luke said to her in the shorthand sign language they had developed together.

AP

In this image released by CBS, "Amazing Race 14" host Phil Keoghan, left, congratulates lawyers Tammy Jih and Victor Jih, right, at the finish line in Maui, Hawaii after winning the competition. The brother and sister team was declared the winner in the season finale airing on Sunday, May 10, 2009.

AP

This Wednesday, Aug. 8, 2007 picture shows Actor Tobey Maguire, left, and Jennifer Meyer in Los Angeles.

## Actor Tobey Maguire's wife gives birth to baby boy

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—The wife of "Spider-Man" star Tobey Maguire has given birth to the couple's second child, a boy.

People.com reports that 31-year-old Jennifer Meyer gave birth to a baby boy on Friday. Maguire publicist Kelly Bush on Sunday confirmed the birth but gave no other details.

Meyer gave birth to the couple's daughter, Ruby Sweetheart Maguire, more than two years ago.

The 33-year-old Maguire and Meyer met in 2003 and were married in 2007.

Meyer is the daughter of Ron Meyer, president and chief operating officer of Universal Studios.

Maguire's other screen credits include "Seabiscuit" and "Wonder Boys."

## Venice film fest to honor Pixar directors

**ROME** (AP)—The Venice Film Festival says it will give lifetime achievement awards this year to Disney's chief creative officer and four Pixar directors for their work in animation.

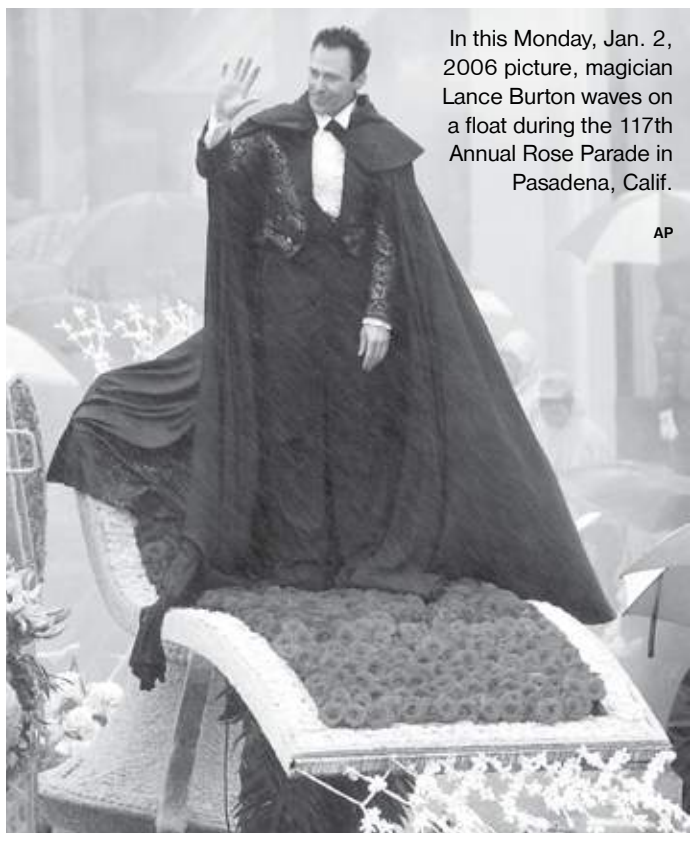
Festival organizers say John Lasseter will be presented with the Golden Lion award for lifetime achievement on Sept. 6 during the annual event at Venice's Lido.

Lasseter is a two-time Academy Award-winning director, for "Toy Story" and "Tin Toy."

Organizers also said Sunday that the festival will feature the world premiere screenings of "Toy Story" and "Toy Story 2" in 3-D. The festival runs this year from Sept. 2-12.

The four Pixar Animation Studios directors who will be honored with Lasseter include Brad Bird, Pete Docter, Andrew Stanton and Lee Unkrich.

Stanton is the director of "Finding Nemo" and Unkrich directed the upcoming "Toy Story 3" feature.



AP

In this Monday, Jan. 2, 2006 picture, magician Lance Burton waves on a float during the 117th Annual Rose Parade in Pasadena, Calif.

## Vegas magician Burton cancels shows after injury

**LAS VEGAS** (AP)—Las Vegas magician Lance Burton is canceling his performances at the Monte Carlo Hotel and Casino through June 2 after he broke his right foot onstage last week.

Burton publicist Wayne Bernath said Friday that Burton expects to have surgery on Monday.

Bernath says Burton experienced discomfort in the foot 15 minutes into a performance Thursday.

He says Burton didn't think it was serious at the time and finished the rest of the show.

He says tickets are refundable for the missed shows.

## ENTERTAINMENT TIDBITS

### New comedy 'Modern Family' set for ABC next season

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)—ABC says it has picked up a mockumentary-style comedy about family life for next season. The network said Thursday it has ordered 13 episodes of "Modern Life," starring Ty Burrell, Ed O'Neill and Julie Bowen. The announcement comes two weeks before ABC and other networks unveil their schedules for the 2009-10 season. ABC's early word on "Modern Life" is a sign that the show has solid network support and that comedy may be in for a rebound on TV.

### Fundraiser key in 'Celebrity Apprentice' finale

**NEW YORK** (AP)—Comedian Joan Rivers is hired and poker champ Annie Duke is fired on the season finale of "Celebrity Apprentice." These bitter archrivals were the last of 16 celebrities who began the season vying for the title of "Celebrity Apprentice" on the NBC reality contest. Rivers beat out Duke on Sunday's finale by planning a more successful charity fundraiser. Duke was summoned to a boardroom session to hear the dreaded verdict from series host Donald Trump: "You're fired." "Celebrity Apprentice" and Trump will be back for their ninth season next year.

# Weight-loss patient wins support for battling obesity

**By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN**
FROM UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

**DEAR ABBY**: May I chime in on the letter from "Mini-Me in Texas" (Feb. 5), who didn't want to disclose to her colleagues the fact that she'd had weight-reduction surgery? There is still enormous bias against overweight people, even from those who should know better. The perception is that the problem is a "lack of control." There is also prejudice from these same folks against individuals who seek the lap band procedure because it is regarded as "taking the easy way out."

I understand why "Mini" would prefer to keep her procedure and adjustments private. One's own body and eating habits are a private matter.

If "Mini" wants to deflect negative speculation, she can say that she is worried about her health, has sought medical advice and is following her doctor's plan to help her lose weight.

Kudos to "Mini" for improving her health. Weight loss is always a struggle, and well-meaning people should not pass judgment or interfere.

MINI-ME SUPPORTER IN OAKLAND

**DEAR SUPPORTER: Your sentiments have merit. However, I also heard from readers who responded with other options for "Mini" to consider. Read on:**

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: Since I had gastric bypass surgery last year, I have lost more than 80 pounds. I have been frank with my friends and have offered to provide any information I can. I am also happy to let them know that I no longer have type II diabetes, acid reflux, sleep apnea or high blood pressure.

Not only is it OK for "Mini" to tell people about her surgery, she should celebrate it as I do, and help others by letting them know not only what she did, but also how wonderful she's feeling now.

LIGHTER NOW IN MINNESOTA

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: I, too, had lap band surgery a year ago. When folks comment on my weight loss, I say, "Isn't it great? I feel fabulous!" When they ask how I lost the weight, I tell them that I eat less and exercise more. It's the truth without going into details.

JILL IN IDAHO

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: I liked your advice of ordering only an appetizer. Once the weight loss begins to show, people will stop questioning the smaller portion choices because they will be aware that "Mini" is on a weight-loss program.

I still need to exercise and make wise food choices. The lap band surgery for me was not a solution but a tool in helping me in my journey to lose weight.

LOVING LIFE AGAIN

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: I was so excited about my gastric bypass surgery, I told anyone who would listen. Everyone was extremely supportive. Responses ranged from "Good for you!" to curiosity about the procedure.

"Mini" has nothing to be ashamed of. And it's not a sign of weakness or "taking the easy way out" because there's nothing easy about weight-loss surgery.

MINIER-ME IN CALIFORNIA

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: The lap band procedure has become so prevalent that my husband's surgeon issues wallet-sized cards to present to servers when requesting child-sized meals. So far, all restaurants have recognized and honored these cards.

E.J.M. IN SOUTH CAROLINA

■ ■ ■

**DEAR ABBY**: Being open about the surgery and successful weight loss can inspire others as well as reinforce the positive changes she has introduced into her life. It turns out the folks I didn't want to tell have become my biggest cheerleaders.

HAPPY LOSER IN KANSAS

*Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Write Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.*

*For an excellent guide to becoming a better conversationalist and a more sociable person, order "How to Be Popular." Send a business-sized, self-addressed envelope, plus check or money order for $6 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby – Popularity Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Postage is included in the price.)*

# Pastimes

## Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

THIS IS GOING TO BE A LONG NIGHT.
MY HEART JUMPS AT THE SLIGHTEST SOUND. IT'S ALMOST 2, AND I'M WIDE AWAKE.
WHEN SOMEONE BREAKS INTO YOUR HOME, IT SHATTERS YOUR LAST ILLUSION OF SECURITY. IF YOU'RE NOT SAFE IN YOUR OWN HOME, YOU'RE NOT SAFE ANYWHERE.
A MAN'S HOME IS HIS CASTLE, BUT IT SHOULDN'T HAVE TO BE A FORTRESS.
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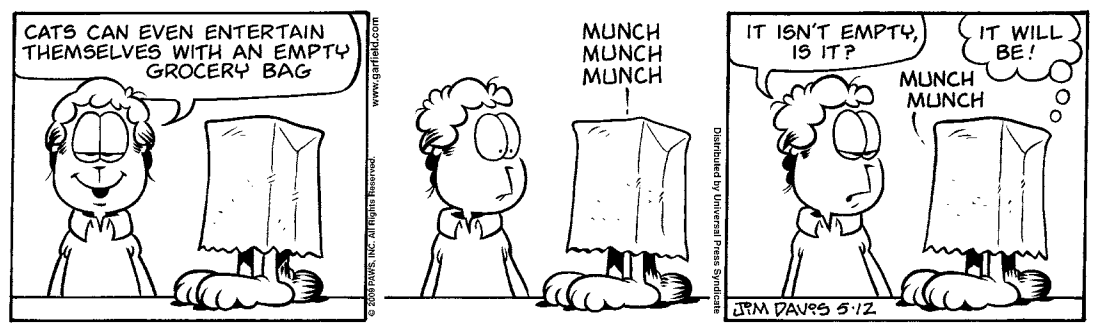
5/12
WATTERSON

## Garfield®

By Jim Davis


CATS CAN EVEN ENTERTAIN THEMSELVES WITH AN EMPTY GROCERY BAG
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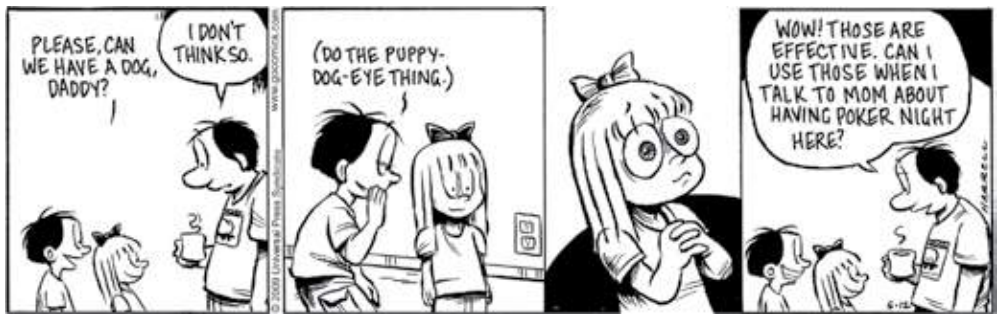
MUNCH MUNCH MUNCH
IT ISN'T EMPTY, IS IT?
IT WILL BE!
MUNCH MUNCH
Distributed by Universal Press Syndicate
JIM DAVIS 5-12

## Adam@home

By Bryan Basset


PLEASE, CAN WE HAVE A DOG, DADDY?
I DON'T THINK SO.
(DO THE PUPPY-DOG-EYE THING.)
WOW! THOSE ARE EFFECTIVE. CAN I USE THOSE WHEN I TALK TO MOM ABOUT HAVING POKER NIGHT HERE?
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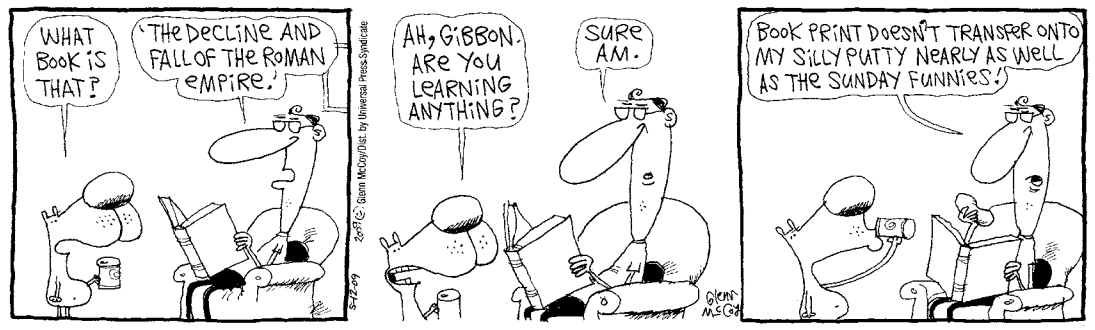
www.gocomics.com

## The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy


WHAT BOOK IS THAT?
'THE DECLINE AND FALL OF THE ROMAN EMPIRE.'
AH, GIBBON. ARE YOU LEARNING ANYTHING?
SURE AM.
BOOK PRINT DOESN'T TRANSFER ONTO MY SILLY PUTTY NEARLY AS WELL AS THE SUNDAY FUNNIES!
5-12-09
2009 © Glenn McCoy/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
Glenn McCoy

## CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

**ACROSS**
1 "Family —"
5 Revlon rival
9 Scoundrel
12 Relaxation
13 Diner's card
14 Wish otherwise
15 Grouped together
17 Coulter or Curry
18 Nevada city
19 Vile
21 Eco-friendly
24 Unuttered "alas"
25 Incense
26 Encased, in a way
30 Hockey venue
31 Picture puzzle
32 Geologic period
33 Sank, as a billiard ball
35 "Hey, you!"
36 Twitches
37 Starbucks order
38 God
40 Harbor structure
42 U.N. workers' grp.
43 Played a bat-and-ball game
48 Chap
49 Welsh vegetable
50 Protuberance
51 Type measures
52 Vortex
53 Animated figure

**DOWN**
1 Shortest of the 12 (Abbr.)
2 Corn spike
3 "Born in the —"
4 Edict
5 Congregation's cry
6 Kill a bill
7 Inseparable
8 Pests
9 It often involves a dummy
10 One of the kin
11 Say it isn't so
16 Understanding
20 Census statistic
21 Stagehand
22 Puerto —
23 November events
24 Missile type
26 "West Side Story" gang
27 Honest politician?
28 Formerly, formerly
29 Appointment
31 Honor Earth Day, in a way
34 DIY buy
35 Progenitor
37 Albanian money
38 It ain't worth a nickel
39 Verve
40 Multicolored
41 Gross
44 Roulette bet
45 Additionally
46 Tokyo's old name
47 Lair

Solution time: 21 mins.

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Y | O | U | S | ■ | E | L | M | ■ | R | A | S | P |
| A | B | S | C | I | S | S | A | ■ | U | N | T | O |
| M | I | N | O | T | A | U | R | ■ | S | T | A | N |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | P | E | U | ■ | T | S | H | I | R | T |
| M | O | D | E | M | ■ | F | I | L | E | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| I | R | E | D | ■ | M | I | N | U | E | T | S | ■ |
| L | E | S | ■ | B | O | X | E | R | ■ | O | H | O |
| ■ | M | I | N | A | R | E | T | ■ | A | G | A | R |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | A | R | T | S | ■ | H | B | O | M | B |
| W | A | P | I | T | I | ■ | K | E | Y | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| E | L | A | L | ■ | M | I | N | I | S | T | E | R |
| P | O | R | E | ■ | E | V | E | R | M | O | R | E |
| T | E | E | D | ■ | R | Y | E | ■ | S | T | A | B |

Yesterday's answer 5-12

| | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 | ■ | 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | ■ | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | | | | ■ | 13 | | | | ■ | 14 | | |
| 15 | | | | 16 | | | | | ■ | 17 | | |
| ■ | ■ | ■ | 18 | | | | ■ | 19 | 20 | | | |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | | | ■ | ■ | 24 | | | | ■ | ■ |
| 25 | | | | ■ | 26 | 27 | | | | | 28 | 29 |
| 30 | | | ■ | 31 | | | | | ■ | 32 | | |
| 33 | | | 34 | | | | | ■ | 35 | | | |
| ■ | ■ | 36 | | | | ■ | ■ | 37 | | | | |
| 38 | 39 | | | | ■ | 40 | 41 | | | ■ | ■ | ■ |
| 42 | | | ■ | 43 | 44 | | | | | 45 | 46 | 47 |
| 48 | | | ■ | 49 | | | | ■ | 50 | | | |
| 51 | | | ■ | 52 | | | | ■ | 53 | | | |

**STUMPED?** For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

**CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY:** Jason Biggs, 31; Tony Hawk, 41; Stephen Baldwin, 43; Emilio Estevez, 47

**Happy Birthday**: Stop worrying, it's holding you back. Nothing is as bad as you imagine, so move forward and see there are plenty of possibilities. You can learn something new and incorporate that into something with the potential to make money. Do the work yourself and take full credit. Your numbers are 2, 15, 21, 26, 39, 41, 48

**ARIES** (*March 21-April 19*): You can accomplish far more if you are a little reserved about what you are up to. It's better to hit everyone with a finished product. Youngsters and others with an innocent point of view will give you the best feedback. ✪✪✪✪✪

**TAURUS** (*April 20-May 20*): A change in your financial situation will take you by surprise. Don't promise someone the impossible. Get serious about the rules you set for yourself and your family. ✪✪✪

**GEMINI** (*May 21-June 20*): An ingenious idea you have regarding money and getting contracts signed, sealed and delivered will make you the hero of the day. Your insight into what others want will put you in the running for a choice position. ✪✪✪

**CANCER** (*June 21-July 22*): You'll feel the urge to say something you will live to regret. Before you make a ghastly mistake, do the math and find out where you stand. A temptation will cost you. Now is not the time to run to someone's aid. ✪✪✪

**LEO** (*July 23-Aug. 22*): Rise to the occasion and you will gather new friends along the way. Your astute observations will enable you to choose wisely when asking for help or inviting someone to enjoy an event with you. Plan a trip to visit someone you miss. ✪✪✪

**VIRGO** (*Aug. 23-Sept. 22*): It's time to put on the pressure and fulfill your dreams. Taking part in activities that involve family, friends or children will be informative and will give you some great ideas you can implement into your own life. A change at home will be a wise choice. ✪✪✪✪✪

**LIBRA** (*Sept. 23-Oct. 22*): Don't get messed up because you can't get your emotions to cooperate. You may be at a loss if you give in to someone's pressure. Love issues will cause personal and professional partnership problems. ✪✪

**SCORPIO** (*Oct. 23-Nov. 21*): You can change your professional direction or add something to the mix you are already working with. Now is a great time to define who you are and what you do. Promote and you will get the response you need to move forward. ✪✪✪✪

**SAGITTARIUS** (*Nov. 22-Dec. 21*): You'll be caught up in the moment and may miss out on something important because your emotions are overworking. Don't let someone's changes get past you or you'll discover too late that something or someone is missing from your life. ✪✪✪

**CAPRICORN** (*Dec. 22-Jan. 19*): Someone may be toying with your emotions. Before you get all bent out of shape or forget things you have to get done, take a second look at the situation. Focus on your own success and sweet revenge will be yours. ✪✪✪

## EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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**AQUARIUS** (*Jan. 20-Feb. 18*): The more involved you are in something you believe in, the better your life will become. You will come up with a spectacular idea to bring in cash. Someone who has been in your corner forever will be there to help you yet again. ✪✪✪✪

**PISCES** (*Feb. 19-March 20*): You won't be the only one questioning your future. Maybe it's time for a change. Consider your options and what you might like to learn. It's never too late to change direction or to pick up new skills. ✪✪

**Birthday Baby**: You are proactive and pick up knowledge easily. You are loving and playful but lack patience. You are willful and know how to get your way.

*Eugenia's Web sites:* ***astroadvice.com*** *for fun,* ***eugenialast.com*** *for confidential consultations*

## SUDOKU

**Conceptis Sudoku** *By Dave Green*

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| | | | | 6 | 3 | | 1 | |
| | | 6 | | | | 5 | | 9 |
| | 1 | | | | | | 7 | |
| | | | | 4 | 5 | | | 3 |
| 7 | | | 3 | 8 | 6 | | | 1 |
| 5 | | | 7 | 2 | | | | |
| | 6 | | | | | | 2 | |
| 9 | | 8 | | | | 4 | | |
| | 7 | | 9 | 3 | | | | |

Difficulty Level ★★ 5/12

Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

**Yesterday's SUDOKU Answer**

| | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| 9 | 2 | 5 | 4 | 8 | 6 | 1 | 7 | 3 |
| 7 | 3 | 1 | 5 | 9 | 2 | 8 | 4 | 6 |
| 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 1 | 3 | 2 | 5 | 9 |
| 5 | 9 | 7 | 2 | 6 | 1 | 3 | 8 | 4 |
| 1 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 4 | 9 | 5 | 6 | 7 |
| 3 | 4 | 6 | 8 | 7 | 5 | 9 | 1 | 2 |
| 2 | 1 | 3 | 6 | 5 | 7 | 4 | 9 | 8 |
| 8 | 7 | 9 | 1 | 2 | 4 | 6 | 3 | 5 |
| 6 | 5 | 4 | 9 | 3 | 8 | 7 | 2 | 1 |

Difficulty Level ★ 5/11

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## WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

**HOW TO PLAY:** All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally, even backward. Find them and **CIRCLE THEIR LETTERS ONLY. DO NOT CIRCLE THE WORD.** The leftover letters spell the Wonderword.

**TRANSPONDERS** Solution: 8 letters

| | | | | | | | | | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| R | N | L | (D) | E | D | T | E | O | B | J | E | C | T | S |
| A | E | (A) | A | E | V | L | I | R | D | N | U | O | R | G |
| D | (T) | T | V | N | B | I | I | U | A | T | R | M | A | S |
| (A) | E | I | T | I | G | D | E | L | C | C | N | M | R | K |
| R | C | G | S | I | G | I | P | C | S | R | O | E | E | I |
| E | I | I | R | E | M | A | S | A | E | N | I | R | T | F |
| L | V | D | A | S | Y | S | T | E | M | R | T | C | U | R |
| E | R | A | N | O | S | E | N | I | R | R | A | I | P | E |
| C | E | L | G | S | L | L | G | A | O | G | I | A | M | Q |
| T | S | L | E | L | E | N | C | A | R | N | V | L | O | U |
| R | S | O | I | N | I | N | D | I | S | T | A | N | C | E |
| O | B | T | N | Y | M | E | S | N | O | P | S | E | R | N |
| N | E | A | A | U | T | O | M | O | B | I | L | E | S | C |
| I | H | P | N | R | O | I | D | A | R | E | P | L | Y | Y |
| C | O | D | E | D | T | T | N | E | M | P | I | U | Q | E |

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Automobiles, Aviation, Band, Bridge, Carriers, Channel, Circuit, Code, Commercial, Computer, Data, Device, Digital, Distance, Electronic, Equipment, Frequency, Ground, Mode, Navigation, Objects, Paying, Plane, Radar, Radio, Range, Receive, Reply, Response, Road, Satellite, Sensor, Service, Signal, Sonar, Start, System, Toll, Transmitter, Visible

**Yesterday's Answer: Effects**

**WONDERWORD** offers the "Book of Celebrities," for $5.95 each (US funds only) payable to Universal Press Syndicate plus $3 postage for the first book order, $1 p&h for each additional book. Send to **WONDERWORD**, 1130 Walnut St., Kansas City, Mo. 64106 or call toll-free, 1-800-642-6480. Order online at upuzzles.com.

# CLASSIFIED ADS

WHATZIT Solution: Safety in numbers

## FOR RENT - RESIDENTIAL

Fina Sisu Apt., 2-BR, 2-BTH, FF, AC, BU Genset/ 24-hr water, security, laundry room, free Wi-Fi & ample parking. Right behind NMC campus. MIHA applicants accepted. Special rates for NMC faculty/ students. Call 235-6527/8 or 285-1317 for info.

Lower Navy Hill Apts. Newly renovated Bldg. 3BR & 2BTH. Rooms w/ A/C & fully furnished. Backup generator. Free Wi-Fi. EPA Solar Water Heater. Laundry area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

Oceanview & Sunsetview Terraces. Luxury 2BR & 1BTH Apts w/private balcony & beautiful view. Rooms w/ A/C & Fully Furnished. Back-up Generator. Free Wi-Fi. Laundry Area. Nightime security. 235-6527/28 or 285-1317.

## EMPLOYMENT

Seeking experienced autobody repairer. Must be experienced with rust repairs, some paint experienced preferred. Contact 287-7785.

## AUTOMOTIVE

96 or Newer Truck. Must have A/C. Must in reasonable condition. Call 287-7785.

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## MOVING SALE

Everything must go. 1991 Toyota Land Cruiser $1,800. 32 LCD TV, 300watt DVD, CD surround system and quality glass stand $800. Fishing gear, microwave, laptop, ice chest, best offer. Contact Ken 322-0961.

## FOR SALE

Tired of blackouts? For sale new Xantrex 2,400VA inverter charger. Best on the market. Will supply uninterupted power throughout typhoons and the daily outages soon to come with the end of the Aggreko contract. $1,200. Contact Ken 322-0961.

## FOR SALE - COMMERCIAL

USSP Club, Garapan. The local crowd spot. On Sale $75000. Or Best Offer. Grab a partner and be the next owner! Call Rose @ 286-7653/233-1984. Leaving island.

**FREE, FREE, FREE, FREE!**
7.12 Insurance now offers FREE Notary Public Service to the community. We prepare Vehicle Bill of Sale application. 7.12 Insurance is expanding Branch Office opens May 1, in Garapan between Century Hotel & 99¢ Mart.
This offer is at Garapan Branch only and ends by May 31, 2009.

**NEED PROPERTIES**
**We are looking for all kinds of properties, vacant property, commercial building, house, or apartment for long term lease or for sale. Interested owners, you may visit Yuta Office beside Bank of Guam in San Antonio.**

## Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

### JOB VACANCY ANNOUNCEMENTS

Open: Tuesday, May 12, 2009 Close: Monday, May 25, 2009

**JVA No. 09-014 : Meter Technician**
**JVA No. 09-015 : Administrative Support Assistant**

Location: Commonwealth Utilities Corporation, Power Division, Saipan.

For information on the duties and minimum qualifications, please stop by the Human Resources Office located on the 3rd Floor of the Joeten Dandan Building, Saipan.

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## WHATZIT?™

Find the familiar phrase, saying or name in this arrangement of letters.

SIX
THOUSAND
FIFTY
SEVEN
TEN
TWENTY

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**Find today's solution in this section**

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Saipan Tribune
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WEDNESDAY NOVEMBER 14, 2007
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2 hurt in Puerto Rico vehicular crash. PAGE 5
There is still hope for nonimmigrant statu
joins Micronesia
OPINION METER
RELATED NEWS

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*Saipan Tribune* also offers a Super Saver Package—a complete 7-day run on both print and online edition, for as low as $25 per 3 liner ad for garage sales, apartment rentals, help wanted, auto and more. You can choose from any of below packages that fits your budget.

| ADS (7DAYS) | COMBO (PRINT AND ONLINE) |
|---|---|
| • 3-Liner | $25 |
| • 5-Liner | $35 |
| • 3-Liner with picture | $45 |
| • 5-Liner with picture | $55 |

### ADVERTISING DEADLINE

**Classified Ads**

Ads must be submitted before 12 noon 2 days prior to publication date

Saturday Issue:
- *Saipan Tribune:* All ads placed Friday before 12 noon will come out Saturday issue and anything placed thereafter will be published on Monday issue.

### CANCELLATION

**Classified Ads**

Cancellations should be made before 12 noon of the day prior to date of publication.

### REFUNDS

Refunds will only be made if cancellation deadlines are met. No refunds will be made once ad is already printed.

### CHECK YOUR ADS

*Saipan Tribune* will not be responsible for errors after the first day of publication. Errors should be called in before noon of the issue date. *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

### ADVERTISING POLICY

All advertising in the *Saipan Tribune* are subject to applicable rate sheet, copies of which are available from the Advertising Sales Department (please call 235-8747, 235-2769 or 235-6397). All ads will be subject to approval prior to publication. We reserve the right to edit, refuse, reject or cancel any ad at any time. Also, *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to place ads under proper headings and to revise copy when necessary.

# Big Baby's buzzer beater lifts Celtics

**ORLANDO, Fla**. (AP)—The defending champions aren't giving up their crown easily. Glen Davis made a 21-foot jumper as time expired to help the Boston Celtics hold off a furious rally and defeat the Orlando Magic 95-94 on Sunday night to even their Eastern Conference semifinal at two games apiece.

Davis took the pass on the wing from Paul Pierce, swished the jumper over a charging Rashard Lewis and ran to halfcourt. He was mobbed by teammates, leaving the Orlando home crowd silenced.

"I didn't see his emotions," Celtics coach Doc Rivers said. "I was having an emotional highjack at the moment myself."

Davis' jumper followed a pair of free throws by Lewis that put the Magic ahead with 11.3 seconds to play. Davis also hit a 15-foot jumper in the final minute and finished with 21 points.

Dwight Howard had 23 points and 17 rebounds, and Lewis scored 22 for the Magic. Game 5 is Tuesday in Boston.

The Celtics went ahead by nine points with about 5 minutes remaining in the third quarter on a 3-pointer by Pierce. Boston's All-Star forward had 27 points, but would battle foul trouble the rest of the way, helping Orlando trim the lead slowly.

But it was the final play that changed the series.

Magic coach Stan Van Gundy said his players carried out the last play defensively exactly how he had designed, taking the ball out of the hands of Pierce and Ray Allen, and put the responsibility for his team's failures on himself.

"The only guy who made a mistake on the last play was me," Van Gundy said.

Orlando's coach had cautioned his team about feeling satisfied with its Game 3 victory, even reminding players with a message at the team's practice facility that they were in the same position Philadelphia was in their first-round series. The 76ers went up 2-1, then lost in six games.

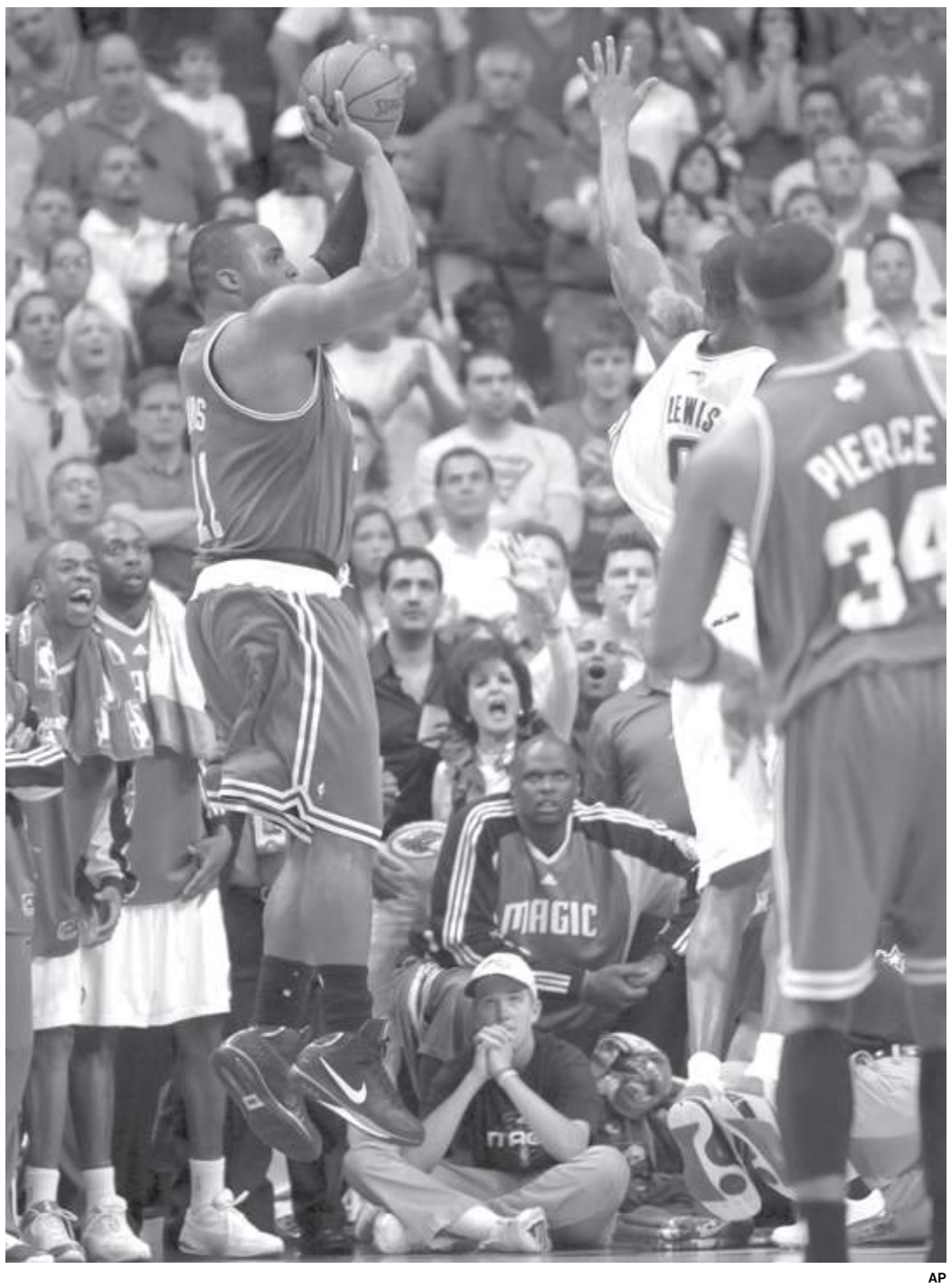
But it was Boston that went right at Orlando from the start.

The aggressive play caused Howard to pick up his second foul about halfway through the opening period, with the Celtics already taking a five-point lead. The Magic would withstand an early push by Boston and then go on a 9-2 run to end the quarter ahead 28-25 without Howard.

But neither team would get out to a big lead as they did in the first three games of the series.

An ugly, first-half foul fest with 29 personals called saw 13 lead changes. That's 13 more than the last two games combined, with Boston and Orlando going start to finish without losing the lead in the previous contests.

Pierce was finally able to get off to a quick start by attacking the basket and drawing fouls. He went 6 of 7 on free throws on his way to 18 points in the opening half to help the Celtics take a 48-46 lead at the break.




AP

Boston Celtics forward Glen Davis, left, shoots the game-winning basket over Orlando Magic forward Rashard Lewis as Paul Pierce watches at the end of a second-round NBA playoff basketball game in Orlando, Fla., Sunday, May 10, 2009.

### Rockets 99, LA Lakers 87

At Houston, the Houston Rockets not only beat the Los Angeles Lakers without Yao Ming, they made it look easy. Aaron Brooks scored a career-high 34, Shane Battier sank five 3-pointers and added 23 and the Houston Rockets routed the Los Angeles Lakers to even their Western Conference semifinal at two games apiece.

Luis Scola had 11 points and 14 rebounds as the Rockets got exactly the team effort they needed after Yao broke his left foot in the Lakers' win in Game 3.

Game 5 is Tuesday night in Los Angeles, and anyone who thought the Rockets were finished without their best player only needed to watch the first few minutes on Sunday, when Houston built a 22-7 lead.

Pau Gasol scored 30 points and Kobe Bryant had a quiet 15 for Los Angeles.

Lakers coach Phil Jackson warned his team about taking the Rockets too lightly after hearing about Yao's injury. But the Lakers looked lethargic from the start, giving away careless turnovers and playing lax defense.

The Rockets opened the game with a 22-7 run, starting 4-of-5 from 3-point range. Bryant scored the Lakers' first three baskets, but the rest of the team missed its first seven shots.

Houston led 54-36 at the break. The Lakers grabbed only two offensive rebounds and generated only four fast-break points in their lowest-scoring half of the season. Battier had 15 points at halftime, two more than Bryant.

The Rockets outscored Los Angeles 29-18 in the decisive third quarter, led by Brooks' 17 points. The speedy, 6-foot guard finished the quarter by catching a midcourt pass by Ron Artest and putting in a layup just before the buzzer.

Lamar Odom, who scored 16 points in Game 3, drove into Battier and was called for a charge midway through the quarter. He hit the floor hard, limped to the bench and went to the locker room with back spasms. He did not return.

And when Brooks completed the last-second alley-oop, Artest smacked his hands on the scorers' table and smiled to the roaring crowd, in seeming disbelief about the way things were going.

Artest scored only eight points, but had 10 rebounds and six assists.

Bryant returned from a long rest with 5:41 left in the game and the Lakers cut the deficit to 10. But it was too late by then and Brooks fittingly scored Houston's last two points on free throws in the final minute.

# Stenson shoots 66 to blow away field at Players

**PONTE VEDRA BEACH, Fla**. (AP)—Henrik Stenson was famous for reasons he never imagined. Two months ago, he was best known as the Swede who stripped down to nothing but his underwear and a golf glove while playing from a water hazard at Doral. Out of curiosity, he searched the Internet and found 143 articles, more news than he ever got for his game.

"I guess I got as much attention off that thing as from my results the last 10 years," he said.

His golf was all the rage Sunday at The Players Championship.

With a final round that was close to perfect, Stenson was the only player to keep bogeys off his card on his way to a 6-under 66 that gave him a four-shot victory, the 10th of his career and by far his biggest.

"This is obviously going to be the latest thing on the resume," Stenson said.

Trailing by five shots on the treacherous TPC Sawgrass, he took advantage of a swift and shocking collapse by Alex Cejka, never had to worry about Tiger Woods and blew away everyone else in firm, fast conditions rarely seen this side of a major.

"I was thinking this that if I could finish in front of Tiger, that might be good enough," said Ian Poulter, who shot a 70 and to finish second. "But I wasn't expecting someone to go out there and shoot 66."

The sun-baked gallery was curious how Cejka would fare with a five-shot lead playing in the final group with Woods. Four holes and a little more than an hour into the final round, the lead was gone. Cejka shot 42 on the front and wound up with a 79.

Focus quickly shifted to Woods, and whether he could rally to win from five shots behind as he did at Bay Hill. But not this time. Woods missed three fairways that led to bogeys on the front nine, and trailed by as many as eight shots on the back nine.

"When you're playing a golf course like this and you don't have it, and the greens are this fast and this hard, you can shoot some pretty high numbers," he said.

Woods managed a 73 to finish eighth, his first top 10 at The Players Championship since he won in 2001, and his 16th consecutive top 10 in stroke-play events worldwide.

Stenson played so well that he had a four-shot leading standing on the 17th tee, his only mission to make sure it found grass beneath it. He kept his bogey-free round in tact to the end, walking off the green with his daughter in his arms.

"It's just going to give me a lot of confidence to go out there and control myself and play as well as I did on the last day at TPC Sawgrass and to hold off such a strong field," he said. "It's just going to give me a lot of confidence going into the majors. Obviously, if I can play as well as I did today, I surely can do it on a Sunday at the majors."

Stenson finished at 12-under 276 and earned $1.71 million for a victory that moves him to No. 5 in the world ranking.

John Mallinger (70) and Kevin Na (70) tied for third. They were among a dozen players who had hopes of winning on the back nine, one of the most unpredictable stretches in golf.

Stenson, a Swede who shows little emotion even when playing in his skivvies, never gave anyone much hope. His 66 matched the best score of the final round—Aaron Baddeley also had a 66 with the first tee time of the day—and was nearly 7.5 strokes better than the field average.

Stenson missed only one fairway. The only times he came remotely close to a bogey, he holed par putts of 8 feet on the front nine.

Stenson rolled in a 15-foot birdie putt from just short of the seventh green and joined a four-way tie atop the leaderboard that included Poulter, Ben Crane and Retief Goosen. Stenson took the outright lead with a two-putt birdie from 55 feet on the fringe at the ninth.

It was over a short time later.

Stenson hammered a tee shot—the only time he hit driver in the final round—on the par-5 11th, hit 4-iron to a front bunker and blasted out to 6 feet for birdie. He took aim at the flag on the par-3 13th for a 10-footer, then seized control for good after watching Poulter celebrate a birdie on the 15th to pull within two shots.

Stenson hit wedge to 2 1/2 feet to match him, then reached the par-5 16th in two for another birdie. And once his ball found the island green at No. 17, he could relax.

"I could afford to go bogey-bogey and still win it," Stenson said. "That's always a handy situation to be in."

Stenson's other U.S. victory came at the Accenture Match Play Championship two years ago against the top 64 players in the world. He also won in Dubai, finishing two shots ahead of Woods. The Players has the strongest and deepest field in golf.

"It just seems to bring the best out of me when I have to, playing the best players," Stenson said. "And obviously, now I feel like I'm up there where I belong when I'm playing good.

# Cardinals overcome 5 homers, beat Reds in 10

**CINCINNATI** (AP)— Ryan Franklin was dumbfounded.

As he watched Reds pitcher Micah Owings round the bases on his two-out, pinch-hit homer in the ninth, the previously perfect St. Louis closer was reminded that there's no margin for error at Great American Ball Park.

"That's an out anywhere else," Franklin said of the solo homer that barely cleared the left-field wall. "That's what happens."

All sorts of things happened on a very long day in Cincinnati.

The Reds hit five homers, including two solo shots in the ninth off Franklin (1-0) to tie it, but Colby Rasmus' double in the 10th inning sent St. Louis to an 8-7 victory Sunday that salvaged the final game of the series and left everyone agog over what had just happened.

"That was a blast," said Jay Bruce, who hit one of the Reds' five homers.

It was dramatic right down to the 401st and final pitch—Paul Janish fouled out with the bases loaded to end it after 4 hours, 23 minutes.

"What a game," Cardinals manager Tony La Russa said. "Good luck asking me questions because I don't remember much of anything except a 1-2 slider that Janish popped up. I can't think of anything else that happened, really."

Everyone was a bit numb.

Coming into the series, St. Louis' staff had given up only 11 homers, the fewest in the majors. The Reds hit seven in the last two games, including those two in the ninth that got the crowd of 27,664 revved.

Hairston led off with a full-count homer. Owings, the Reds' fifth starter and one of their top pinch hitters, came to the plate with two outs, worked the count full, fouled off three pitches, then hit a slider for his first homer.

Owings raised his right arm in triumph as he rounded second base on his sixth career homer. He was pummeled in the dugout by teammates and took a curtain call for the fans.

"That's like what you do in the backyard—3-2, bottom of the ninth," Bruce said. "We were jumping around in the dugout. It was awesome."

Franklin hadn't allowed a run all season and had given up only four hits in his previous 13 2-3 innings.

"I had a good run there," he said. "I made two mistakes, pretty much."

Rasmus quickly changed the mood with his RBI double off Francisco Cordero(notes) (0-2), who is perfect in nine save chances but has lost twice when pitching with the score tied.

Over? Not even close.

Cincinnati loaded the bases with two outs in the 10th against Blaine Boyer. Right-hander Chris Perez came on and got Janish to foul out, picking up his first save in two chances this season.

For the first time all weekend, the Cardinals could smile.

"That was really important," said Chris Duncan, who drove in three runs. "We didn't want to get swept."

St. Louis Cardinals' Colby Rasmus, left, high-fives catcher Yadier Molina after they defeated the Cincinnati Reds 8-7 in 10 innings in a baseball game, Sunday, May 10, 2009, in Cincinnati. AP

### Mets 8 Pirates 4

At New York, Livan Hernandez survived a shaky start to go six innings as the Mets welcomed manager Jerry Manuel back from his one-game suspension with their seventh straight victory.

### Cubs 4 Brewers 2

At Milwaukee, Alfonso Soriano hit a towering two-run homer in a four-run third inning as the Cubs beat the Brewers to avoid a series sweep.

### Braves 4 Phillies 2

At Philadelphia, Casey Kotchman had three hits and three RBIs and Kenshin Kawakami pitched six effective innings as Atlanta rallied to get the win.

### Rockies 3 Marlins 2

At Denver, Aaron Cook pitched six solid innings and Troy Tulowitzki homered as part of a third consecutive multi-hit game, leading Colorado to the win.

### Astros 12 Padres 5

At Houston, Miguel Tejada and Carlos Lee each drove in four runs to help Astros ace Roy Oswalt get his first win of the season.

### Diamondbacks 10 Nationals 8

At Phoenix, Chris Snyder and Eric Byrnes each drove in three runs and the Diamondbacks gave manager A.J. Hinch his first victory.

### Giants 7 Dodgers 5 (13 innings)

At Los Angeles, Randy Winn hit a tiebreaking, two-run single with the bases loaded in the 13th inning and finished with four hits, leading San Francisco over Dodgers.

### Blue Jays 5, Athletics 0

At Oakland, Calif., Dallas Braden (3-4) gave up nine hits and three runs in six innings for the A's, who have lost six of eight. At 11-18 with the AL's worst offence in several categories, the A's have matched their second-worst start since moving to Oakland in 1968.

### Red Sox 4 Rays 3

At Boston, Jonathan Papelbon powered his way out of a ninth inning jam with three straight strikeouts after Jason Bay of Trail, B.C., doubled home the go-ahead run in the eighth, and the Red Sox beat Tampa Bay.

### Mariners 5 Twins 3

At Minneapolis, Ken Griffey Jr. hit a tying, two-run homer in the eighth inning to rouse Seattle in a victory over the Twins that stopped their six-game losing streak.

### Angels 4 Royals 3

At Anaheim, Calif., Torii Hunter made a leaping catch above the left-centre field fence to rob Miguel Olivo of a tying homer in the ninth inning, and Los Angeles held off Kansas City.

### Tigers 5 Indians 3

At Cleveland, Rick Porcello extended Detroit's streak of strong pitching, and the Tigers completed a three-game sweep of the struggling Indians.

### Yankees 5 Orioles 3

At Baltimore, Johnny Damon hit a three-run homer in the seventh inning, the biggest blow in a long-ball surge that carried New York past the Orioles.

### Rangers 7 White Sox 1

At Chicago, Hank Blalock homered twice, Vicente Padilla allowed one hit in seven innings and the Texas Rangers ended Bartolo Colon's dominance against them by beating the White Sox.

## *Manny meets with Dodgers owner about suspension*

**LOS ANGELES** (AP)— Manny Ramirez apologized to Dodgers owner Frank McCourt during a meeting to discuss his 50-game suspension for using a banned drug.

Next, the slugger might face his teammates in the next few days.

McCourt said Ramirez called him and the two met Saturday, two days after the 12-time All-Star began serving a penalty imposed by Major League Baseball.

"I wanted to meet him face to face," McCourt said. "He started off the meeting by apologizing and acknowledging the disappointment that he's created—not only for me but for others.

"He's in the process right now of doing what anybody else would do if they made a mistake, in terms of making amends here and communicating with the people he knows he has to communicate with and then going about repairing his relationships. And of course, his is magnified many times because he's a public figure and a very popular one."

McCourt also said he thinks Ramirez should speak to his teammates about the suspension.

"If Manny takes the steps that I'm hopeful he will, I think this will be something that won't damage this franchise at all," McCourt said. "We all make mistakes, and it's how we deal with those mistakes that really differentiates one from the other. And if Manny does with others what he did with me yesterday, I think we'll be on the road to full recovery."

Ramirez has also spoken with manager Joe Torre and general manager Ned Colletti by phone. But the outfielder was absent from Dodger Stadium again Sunday as his teammates wrapped up an 11-game homestand against San Francisco.

"He's still beat up by this thing," Torre said. "Again, it's not that he feels it's unfair, but he's embarrassed and he still has to clear his head before he basically feels good enough to come out. Hopefully it's in the near future, but we didn't nail him down for a (specific) day."

Before Sunday's game, Colletti confirmed a report in the Los Angeles Times that he and McCourt had spoken to Ramirez, whose bat practically carried the Dodgers into last year's playoffs and helped the club get off to a 21-8 start before the suspension.

"All I can tell you is that we had two separate conversations. I had one with Manny, and Frank had one with Manny," Colletti told The Associated Press. "I'd say my conversation was a positive one. And from what Frank has relayed to me, I would say the same. That's all I'm going to say about the conversations."

When asked if Ramirez's voice revealed emotion, Colletti said: "Absolutely."

The Times reported on its Web site Sunday, citing unidentified sources, that McCourt was furious with Ramirez and was demanding that the star slugger speak to his teammates about the failed drug test that led to his suspension.

The newspaper said the meeting might happen sometime after the Dodgers begin a six-game road trip this week.

Colletti declined to say when—or if—Ramirez would show up in the clubhouse to address the issue. But Colletti acknowledged that the dreadlocked outfielder's separation from the ballclub remains a sensitive issue.

"Yeah," he said. "Why wouldn't it be? I really don't want to get into it."

The Dodgers play in Philadelphia on Tuesday night, beginning a three-game series against the team that beat them in the NLCS. From there, it's on to Florida for a three-game set with the Marlins. Ramirez lives in Pembroke Pines, Fla., but Torre wouldn't say where the 2004 World Series MVP is at the moment.

"That's a personal thing, where he is. But he's still here," Torre said.

Ramirez re-signed with the Dodgers in the offseason for a $45 million, two-year contract. He was suspended Thursday for violating baseball's drug policy.

Ramirez said he did not take steroids and was given medication by a doctor that contained a banned substance. A person familiar with the details of the suspension said Ramirez used the female fertility drug HCG, or human chorionic gonadotropin. The person spoke to The Associated Press on condition of anonymity because the banned substance wasn't announced.

HCG is popular among steroid users because it can mitigate the side effects of ending a cycle of the drugs.

"It's really up to him how he conducts himself before I can answer how it affects the organization," McCourt said. "That being said, the Dodgers are much bigger than Manny Ramirez or any player. The Dodgers are much bigger than anybody - including me. Including owners. This is a civic asset, and it's really owned by the fans. And life will go on."

# Ebisuya, Jaypers oust opponents

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Ebisuya and Jaypers advanced to the next round of the Masters division of the 2009 Navy Hill Friendship Basketball League after drawing first blood in the playoffs Saturday night at the Garapan Basketball Court.

Jaypers played in the opening game at the start of the playoffs and slipped past Marianas Wireless, 83-77, while Ebisuya crushed Marianas Ice, 84-69, in the second match.

Jaypers were seeded second in the playoffs, which had nine teams advancing. Marianas Wireless finished ninth, while Ebisuya and Marianas Ice were ranked eighth and third, respectively. C.K. Legends drew a bye in the first round after placing first in the regular season. Garapan Gigolos were ranked fourth, followed by Gualo Rai Bombers, MDX, and Wild Boys.

After a slow start, Jaypers played better in the second half to turn a 36-39 halftime deficit to a 58-56 lead, entering the fourth period.

William Opone and Pasky Peleno led Jaypers' second-half recovery, combining for 11 of the team's 22 points in the third. George Villasan, who was scoreless in the third after making 12 in the first half, finished what Peleno and Opone started in the fourth period. The diminutive Jaypers guard had eight points in the fourth, as he, Noel Mateo, and Ferdie Tobias canned timely baskets to foil Marianas Wireless' upset bid.

Marianas Ice was a victim of Ebisuya's upset axe, as the latter used a 32-point explosion in the fourth quarter to stun its higher seeded foe.

Ebisuya was ahead by only two at the end of the third period, 52-50, when Andy Viola, Edwin Santos, and Dante Olivos teamed up in the team's fourth-quarter breakaway. Santos, Viola, and Olivos combined for 21 points in the payoff canto.

Marianas Ice ran out of gas in the fourth period, as none of its players made more than a field goal in the final canto. Actually, Marianas Ice had only three field goals and scored most of its points from the free throw line, drilling 10 charities.

With the loss, Marianas Ice joins Marianas Wireless in early vacation. The first two rounds of the playoffs have a single-elimination format, but once the league is down to only four teams, a double-elimination format will be in effect.

Other pairings in the first round are MDX against Gualo Rai Bombers and Garapan Gigolos versus Wild Boys. The Wild Boys faced the Gigolos Sunday night, but results of the game were unavailable at press time.

### First Game

**Jaypers 83** – Villasan 20, Opone 13, Peleno 11, Tobias 11, Valdez 11, Mateo 8, Cultura 6, David 2.

**Marianas Wireless 77** – Villegas 17, Surima 12, Illahi 12, Ocampo 11, Darag 8, Quimado 5, Tiples 4.

**Scoring by quarters:** 16-21, 36-39, 58-56, 83-77.

### Second Game

**Ebisuya 84** – Viola 19, Tamondong 16, Santos 13, Sabino 12, Gatdula 8, Olivos 5, Jinang 2.

**Marianas Ice 69** – Casabuena 25, Mina 18, Buenabajo 6, Pacheco 6, Garcia 4, Salazar 3, Omampo 3, Pinili 2.

**Scoring by quarters:** 18-20, 40-34, 52-50, 84-69.

# Round Two battle of champions this Thursday

The past 15 champions of Round Two Bar and Grill's Thursday 8-Ball Tournament will square off this Thursday in a competition dubbed as the Ronelsie Cup.

Named after tournament sponsors Ronnie and Elsie Ringor, the special tournament will be made up of past champions of the Garapan sports bar and watering hole's weekly competition.

It will adopt a race-to-three and race-to-five and single elimination format with an entry fee of $20. It starts promptly at 8:30pm.

The weekly champions that will vie for the Ronelsie Cup are Chester Hamoy, Eric Santos, Jerry Soriano, Senen Pangilinan, Nolan Cultura, Eric Caisip, Primo Ferrera, Boyet Sequioco, Rolly Villanueva, Juancho Mendoza, Patrick Taitano, Taylor Watanabe, Jomer Enriquez, Roger Espiritu, and Victor Hocog.

The winner of the unofficial battle of pool champions will receive a trophy and a cash prize. The runner-up will also take home money and a medal.

Round Two Bar and Grill's regular Thursday 8-Ball Tournament is held every Thursday with a $10 entry fee. Games start at 9pm. For more information about the competitions, contact Ricky Vertudez at 234-6930. ***(Mark Rabago)***

## UNIFORM

*From Page 28*

cause of a uniform violation," the Lion Hearts letter read.

"This conversation took place in the presence of the chief umpire, Mr. Roy Celis. In addition, prior to the start of the game, Mr. Tony Flores [manager for Ol'Aces] approached our assistant coach [Syl Ada], while both teams were already in the dugout and informed Mr. Ada that two of his players were wearing pants with faded stripes and requested if both teams could proceed with the game without disruption by protest. Both Mr. Emul and Mr. Ada gave their word that a protest would not be made from their side and requested that the other team reciprocate the same favor, in which both Mr. Mark and Mr. Anthony Flores gave their word that they would proceed without any disruption," the letter added.

Tony Flores, in an interview with *Saipan Tribune* yesterday during the Ol'Aces' training session at the Oleai Elementary School Field, denied there was an agreement that no protest will be filed.

"I approached the assistant coach, clarifying that the pants that two of our players are wearing are the same uniform that others have. They just have faded stripes, but they are the ones we used from the very beginning of the tournament," the Ol'Aces manager said.

"Since that thing [uniform violation] happened in the Senior League playoffs, everyone seemed to be very cautious about their uniforms, so we just wanted to clear things with Kagman before the game begins," Flores added.

In the Senior League playoff game, Kagman Lion King protested the missing stripes on the pants of Jets pitcher Toby Fleming, saying it is a violation on ground rules on uniforms. The Jets were ahead, 11-0, in the third inning when Lion King filed a protest and won the game via forfeiture. The Jets appealed the ruling, but the SLLB board stood by its earlier decision. Lion King eventually played in the finals, but lost to the Fielders in a shutout game, 10-0.

Flores said when the Lion Hearts started batting in the first inning of their semis game in the Junior division, they noticed the different print on the pitcher's shirt. Ol'Aces waited for the top of the first inning to end before approaching the chief umpire to lodge their protest.

"If the rule (in uniforms) is enforced in the Senior League, why should we not also apply it to the Junior League. We are all in the same Little League program and we have to follow the rules," Flores said.

## ALUMNUS

*From Page 28*

assuming Korean golfer who thanked his father and mother for allowing him to pursue the sport of golf.

Kim also gave kudos to his golf instructor, Joung Hoon Park. "He's been my instructor the past four years and I would also like to dedicate the win to him," he said.

Finishing second to the junior golfer in the championship flight was Mr. Unorthodox, Jess Wabol, who came away with an even 72 following a 36-36 in the front and back nine.

Another Korean, Jung Won Lee, came in third after tying Wabol's 72. He, however, settled for second runner-up honors after losing in a scorecard tiebreak.

In the A flight, businessman Rene Batallones topped the division with his 78 (40-38). Rey San Nicolas and Greg Castro came in second and third with scores of 80 (43-37) and 84 (45-39), respectively.

Jose Itibus, meanwhile, won B flight with his 81 (39-42) with Lucio Aldan (82, 40-42) and Frankie Pangelinan (83, 42-41) coming in second and third.

C flight, on the other hand, belonged to John Matsumoto with his 85 (44-41) followed by Michael Park (87, 44-43) and Rick Balajadia (89, 43-46).

Retired Superior Court president judge Edward Manibusan continued his domination of seniors flight, registering the day's second lowest score of 71 (34-37) to top the division. Nick Sablan (72, 35-37) and Jess Taitano (77, 37-40) were the runners-up.

In the ladies flight, Yang Kim edged Kyun A. Yang on a scorecard tiebreak after the two women finished with an identical net score of 68. Eun Ae Chang was third with her net 73.

The 7th Annual Mount Carmel School drew more than the 60 participants organizers were expecting, according to the school's president Margaret Dela Cruz.

## JAPANESE

*From Page 28*

run leg with a time of 58:07.

Masami Okada was the other Kaike participant who used Tagaman to warm up for the Japan event. She finished first in the women's 25 to 29 age group after completing the race in 4:05:43. The 25-year-old Japanese clocked 31:54 in the swim leg for 10th place, was 40th in the bike part with a time of 2:14:17, and 13th in the run portion with her 1:12:57.

Kawabata and Okada are two of the 850 selected triathletes who will compete in the Kaike race on July 19.

The Kaike event is the first triathlon competition in Japan. The race started in 1981 at Yumigahama Beach, well known for the beauty of its white sand and pine trees.

The Kaike race consists of a 3-km swim in the waters of the Japan Sea and Kaike Onsen [hot spring], a145-km bike leg, and 42.19-km run.

The bike portion will have participants climbing up and going down Mt. Daisen, a volcanic mountain located in Tottori Prefecture. It has an elevation of 1,729 meters and is the highest in the Chukgoku region and the most important volcano on the Daisen volcanic belt.

The run leg will take triathletes to a tour around Kaike Onsen. Kaike Hot Spring is located in Yonago City, which is on the western side of Tottori Prefecture. It is a hot spring resort by the seaside that overlooks the Yumigahama Peninsula's beautiful sandy beach with white sand and green pine trees and faces the Sea of Japan.

## 112 TAKE

*From Page 28*

Walk also drew other prominent people in the community like Northern Marianas College president Carmen Fernandez, Mike Tenorio, Dennis Yoshimoto, Takahashi Masanori, Jerry Facey, Ben Babauta, and Bruce Bateman.

Named after the former first lady, SOPHIA Walk also stands for Saipan Outdoor Physical Health Invigorating Adventure.

Izumi, meanwhile, arrived from Japan together with 12 other members of the Nippon Turtle Association.

The group has been a frequent visitor of the islands and always takes part in the events of Saipan Walking Association, Inc., the former name of event organizer Marianas Walking Association.

The activity started from the Carolinian Utt Pavilion in Garapan and had two courses. The longer 10-kilometer course took participants south all the way to the Oleai bus stop, which was the turning point (near Oleai Beach & Bar), and back to the Carolinian Utt.

For the shorter 5-km course, the turning point was located at the Old World War II Japanese Tank.

For more information about MWA and its future events, contact Mario Espeleta at 322-8876, Hiroko Tajima at 322-8781, or Bea Quitugua at 285-1694.

## TRIBUNE SPORTS SCORES

### MLB STANDINGS

**AMERICAN LEAGUE**

| East Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| Toronto | 22 | 12 | .647 | - |
| Boston | 20 | 12 | .625 | 1 |
| New York | 15 | 16 | .484 | 5 1/2 |
| Tampa Bay | 15 | 18 | .455 | 6 1/2 |
| Baltimore | 13 | 19 | .406 | 8 |
| **Central Division** | | | | |
| Detroit | 17 | 13 | .567 | - |
| Kansas City | 18 | 14 | .563 | - |
| Chicago | 14 | 15 | .483 | 2 1/2 |
| Minnesota | 15 | 17 | .469 | 3 |
| Cleveland | 11 | 21 | .344 | 7 |
| **West Division** | | | | |
| Texas | 17 | 14 | .548 | - |
| Los Angeles | 16 | 14 | .533 | 1/2 |
| Seattle | 15 | 16 | .484 | 2 |
| Oakland | 11 | 18 | .379 | 5 |

**NATIONAL LEAGUE**

| East Division | W | L | Pct | GB |
|---|---|---|---|---|
| New York | 17 | 13 | .567 | - |
| Florida | 17 | 15 | .531 | 1 |
| Philadelphia | 15 | 14 | .517 | 1 1/2 |
| Atlanta | 15 | 16 | .484 | 2 1/2 |
| Washington | 10 | 19 | .345 | 6 1/2 |
| **Central Division** | | | | |
| St. Louis | 20 | 12 | .625 | - |
| Milwaukee | 18 | 14 | .563 | 2 |
| Chicago | 17 | 14 | .548 | 2 1/2 |
| Cincinnati | 17 | 14 | .548 | 2 1/2 |
| Houston | 14 | 17 | .452 | 5 1/2 |
| Pittsburgh | 12 | 19 | .387 | 7 1/2 |
| **West Division** | | | | |
| Los Angeles | 22 | 11 | .667 | - |
| San Francisco | 16 | 14 | .533 | 4 1/2 |
| Arizona | 13 | 19 | .406 | 8 1/2 |
| San Diego | 13 | 19 | .406 | 8 1/2 |
| Colorado | 12 | 18 | .400 | 8 1/2 |

**Yesterday's Games**
Atlanta 4, Philadelphia 2
N.Y. Mets 8, Pittsburgh 4
St. Louis 8, Cincinnati 7, 10 innings
Houston 12, San Diego 5
Chicago Cubs 4, Milwaukee 2
Colorado 3, Florida 2
Arizona 10, Washington 8
San Francisco 7, L.A. Dodgers 5, 13 innings
Detroit 5, Cleveland 3
N.Y. Yankees 5, Baltimore 3
Texas 7, Chicago White Sox 1
Seattle 5, Minnesota 3
L.A. Angels 4, Kansas City 3
Toronto 5, Oakland 0
Boston 4, Tampa Bay 3

### THE PLAYERS CHAMPIONSHIPS LEADERBOARD

**FINAL ROUND**

| | | | | | |
|---|---|---|---|---|---|
| Henrik Stenson | 68 | 69 | 73 | 66 | 276 |
| Ian Poulter | 67 | 68 | 75 | 70 | 280 |
| John Mallinger | 66 | 71 | 74 | 70 | 281 |
| Kevin Na | 71 | 66 | 74 | 70 | 281 |
| Jim Furyk | 68 | 74 | 71 | 69 | 282 |
| Brian Davis | 71 | 69 | 71 | 71 | 282 |
| Ben Crane | 65 | 73 | 72 | 72 | 282 |
| Tiger Woods | 71 | 69 | 70 | 73 | 283 |
| Aaron Baddeley | 71 | 71 | 76 | 66 | 284 |
| Vijay Singh | 71 | 72 | 74 | 67 | 284 |
| Tim Clark | 72 | 69 | 74 | 69 | 284 |
| David Toms | 67 | 70 | 77 | 70 | 284 |
| Alex Cejka | 66 | 67 | 72 | 79 | 284 |
| Matt Kuchar | 72 | 72 | 73 | 68 | 285 |
| Mike Weir | 72 | 72 | 73 | 68 | 285 |
| Paul Casey | 70 | 69 | 76 | 70 | 285 |
| Angel Cabrera | 72 | 65 | 77 | 71 | 285 |
| Robert Allenby | 73 | 66 | 75 | 71 | 285 |
| Camilo Villegas | 67 | 72 | 75 | 71 | 285 |
| Jeff Klauk | 71 | 72 | 71 | 71 | 285 |
| Daniel Chopra | 75 | 65 | 72 | 73 | 285 |
| Scott Piercy | 71 | 72 | 74 | 69 | 286 |
| Sergio Garcia | 71 | 73 | 73 | 69 | 286 |
| Geoff Ogilvy | 70 | 72 | 73 | 71 | 286 |
| Justin Rose | 70 | 71 | 72 | 73 | 286 |
| Steve Stricker | 71 | 71 | 71 | 73 | 286 |
| Ben Curtis | 71 | 72 | 69 | 74 | 286 |
| Woody Austin | 72 | 72 | 68 | 74 | 286 |
| Kenny Perry | 73 | 71 | 68 | 74 | 286 |
| Retief Goosen | 67 | 72 | 71 | 76 | 286 |
| Jason Dufner | 67 | 70 | 77 | 73 | 287 |
| Justin Leonard | 70 | 69 | 75 | 73 | 287 |
| Zach Johnson | 72 | 71 | 70 | 74 | 287 |
| Billy Mayfair | 70 | 74 | 69 | 74 | 287 |
| Kevin Sutherland | 73 | 67 | 72 | 75 | 287 |
| Charley Hoffman | 70 | 69 | 76 | 73 | 288 |
| Luke Donald | 74 | 70 | 71 | 73 | 288 |
| Bubba Watson | 67 | 75 | 72 | 74 | 288 |
| John Rollins | 68 | 76 | 70 | 74 | 288 |
| Jeff Overton | 71 | 67 | 75 | 75 | 288 |
| Tim Petrovic | 68 | 70 | 75 | 75 | 288 |
| John Senden | 72 | 69 | 72 | 75 | 288 |
| Jonathan Byrd | 67 | 72 | 71 | 78 | 288 |
| Ryuji Imada | 72 | 70 | 75 | 72 | 289 |
| Ernie Els | 73 | 69 | 73 | 74 | 289 |
| Michael Letzig | 71 | 68 | 74 | 76 | 289 |
| Richard S. Johnson | 66 | 72 | 74 | 77 | 289 |
| Padraig Harrington | 72 | 72 | 74 | 72 | 290 |
| Jason Bohn | 72 | 71 | 74 | 73 | 290 |
| Stephen Ames | 70 | 71 | 75 | 74 | 290 |
| Nick O'Hern | 68 | 73 | 75 | 74 | 290 |
| Fredrik Jacobson | 70 | 73 | 72 | 75 | 290 |
| Scott Verplank | 67 | 74 | 73 | 76 | 290 |
| Brad Adamonis | 67 | 76 | 74 | 74 | 291 |
| Mark Wilson | 69 | 72 | 75 | 75 | 291 |
| Phil Mickelson | 73 | 71 | 71 | 76 | 291 |
| Heath Slocum | 75 | 69 | 71 | 76 | 291 |
| Martin Kaymer | 71 | 73 | 69 | 78 | 291 |
| Rocco Mediate | 73 | 71 | 74 | 74 | 292 |
| Chez Reavie | 70 | 72 | 75 | 75 | 292 |
| Johnson Wagner | 69 | 73 | 72 | 78 | 292 |
| Michael Allen | 71 | 70 | 74 | 78 | 293 |
| Jeev Milkha Singh | 68 | 74 | 76 | 76 | 294 |
| Steve Flesch | 75 | 69 | 74 | 76 | 294 |
| Cameron Beckman | 72 | 72 | 73 | 78 | 295 |
| John Merrick | 70 | 72 | 74 | 79 | 295 |
| Jeff Quinney | 73 | 70 | 75 | 78 | 296 |
| Pat Perez | 72 | 72 | 74 | 78 | 296 |
| Ryan Moore | 71 | 68 | 75 | 84 | 298 |
| Tommy Armour III | 74 | 70 | 70 | 72 | 286 |

*By The Associated Press*

# 2009 IT&E Badminton Doubles Tournament

**PHOTOS and TEXT by ROSELYN B. MONROYO**

Women's B champions, from left, Ingrid Sanchez and Cristy Villaflor pose with runners-up Marylyn Montano and Cheng Saturno.

Men's C champions Frank Villagomez, left, and Rick Brien flash the No. 1 sign after receiving their first place medal during the awards ceremony for the 2009 IT&E Badminton Doubles Tournament at Shirley's Coffee Shop in Susupe on May 3.

NMBF president Shirley Kim, center, and teammate Angie Ito won the Sportsmanship Award, presented and sponsored by Annie Pascua, right. Receiving the plaque on behalf of Ito is tournament director Macoi Aguda.

Men's B Top 3 finishers, from left, third placers Edwin Maratas and Alfred Acosta, runner-up Paul Navarro, champions Jorge Olanda and Daniel Macario, and Navarro's teammate Mario Diola.

NMBF Honorary Award recipient Roger Vales.

The Top 3 placers in the men's C division, from left, third placers Puy Macario and Chris Hilario, runners-up Luis Camacho and Arnel Banzagale, and champion Frank Villagomez, who teamed up with Rick Brien (not in the picture).

Badminton supporter Jerry Tan, left, presented the Most Promising Player plum to Daniel Macario.

NMBF officials take their oath during the induction of officers held before the awards ceremony for the doubles tournament.

From left, men's A third placers Joseph Santos and Lito Mendoza, NMBF president Shirley Kim, champions Saul Gargallo and Macoi Aguda, and runners-up Robert Hapi Gabriel and Robert Reyes are all smiles after they received their medals.

The women's C Top 3 finishers pose with awards ceremony hosts Hapi Gabriel, right, Macoi Aguda, left, and Northern Marianas Badminton Federation president Shirley Kim, fifth left.

**Big Baby's buzzer beater lifts Celtics**

The defending champions aren't giving up their crown easily. Glen Davis made a 21-foot jumper as time expired to help the Boston Celtics hold off a furious rally and defeat the Orlando Magic 95-94. 24

Saipan Tribune
Sports

**Ebisuya, Jaypers oust opponents**

Ebisuya and Jaypers advanced to the next round of the Masters division of the 2009 Navy Hill Friendship Basketball League after drawing first blood in the playoffs Saturday night at the Garapan Basketball Court. 26

# Uniform infraction this time dooms Kagman

A Kagman Lion Hearts batter watches a low pitch during their regular season game against D-9ers in the Junior division of the 2009 Saipan Little League Baseball on May 2 at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield. Lions Hearts played Ol'Aces in the playoffs last Sunday and lost via forfeiture due to a uniform violation.

ROSELYN B. MONROYO

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Protests over uniform violations in the 2009 Saipan Little League Baseball has turned into an epidemic, as the playoff game between Ol'Aces against Kagman Lion Hearts was marred by another incident.

This time, Kagman was on the losing end, as Ol'Aces was awarded the win by forfeiture, moving the latter to the title match against pennant champion Patriots this Saturday.

The Patriots booked the second finals seat after whipping Red Sox in the second semifinals match, 6-2.

Lion Hearts and Ol'Aces played in the first semis game, but the match was halted after the top of the first inning, as the latter protested the wrong uniform of Kagman pitcher Aldofo Guillermo Roppul. Roppul had the word "Kings" printed on his shirt, instead of "Hearts."

Lion Hearts coaches and managers claimed responsibility to the uniform violation and said they are abiding by the decision of the SLLB board to forfeit the game in favor of Ol'Aces.

But Lion Hearts officials sent a letter to the letter to *Saipan Tribune* explaining the incident Sunday at the Francisco "Tan Ko" Palacios Ballfield.

"Prior to our scheduled game, we noticed that one of the players (Aldofo Guillermo Roppul) who replaced one of our other players currently under suspension was wearing a shirt that had "Kings" instead of "Hearts" printed on it. Although the color of the uniforms is exactly the same, the name printed on the shirt was not. It is for this reason that our head coach, Wally Emul, spoke to one of the Ol'Aces coaches, Mr. Mark Flores, while the teams were still practicing and agreed that both team would play without disruption by protest be-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Former first lady Sophia Tenorio, right, poses with 88-year-old Japanese Jo Izumi after the two took part in Sunday morning's 10th Annual SOPHIA Walk.

# 112 take part in SOPHIA Walk

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Former first lady Sophia Tenorio and 88-year-old Japanese Jo Izumi were among the 112 participants of Sunday morning's 10th Annual SOPHIA Walk.

Held on Mother's Day, the SOPHIA

See 112 TAKE on Page 26

# Alumnus leads Mt. Carmel golf winners

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSISTANT EDITOR

Junior golfer Chang Kyun Kim made his alma mater proud by winning the championship flight of the 7th Annual Mount Carmel School Golf Tournament last Saturday.

The 19-year-old Mt. Carmel School alumnus tamed the greens and fairways of the Laolao Bay Golf Resort west course, shooting a 2-under par 70 to lead the list of winners in the fundraiser for Saipan's lone Catholic learning institution.

Kim outplayed grizzled veterans after carding a 1-under par 35 in both the front and back nines.

It was the third career win in the championship flight for Kim, who only graduated from Mt. Carmel School last year.

"I just played my game and I' happy I was able to win my flight," said the un-

See ALUMNUS on Page 26

Junior golfer and Mt. Carmel School graduate Chang Kyun Kim poses with his trophy and cash prize after topping the championship flight of the 7th Annual Mount Carmel School Golf Tournament last Saturday.

MARK RABAGO

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Japan Kaike participants Daisuke Kawabata, third right, and Masami Okada, fourth right, pose with Tagaman Triathlon organizers and supporters before the race last month.

# Japanese triathletes warm up on Saipan

By ROSELYN B. MONROYO
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REPORTER

Two Japanese triathletes were on Saipan last month and competed in the 20th Tagaman Triathlon to prepare for the fabled 29th All Japan Triathlon Kaike.

Daisuke Kawabata finished sixth in the open division of Tagaman after completing the 1.5-kilometer swim leg, 60-km bike part, and 15-km run portion in three hours, 27 minutes, and 30 seconds.

The 26-year-old triathlete timed in at 39:05 in the swim race for 21st place, was eighth in the bike part with his 1:47:45, and first in the

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